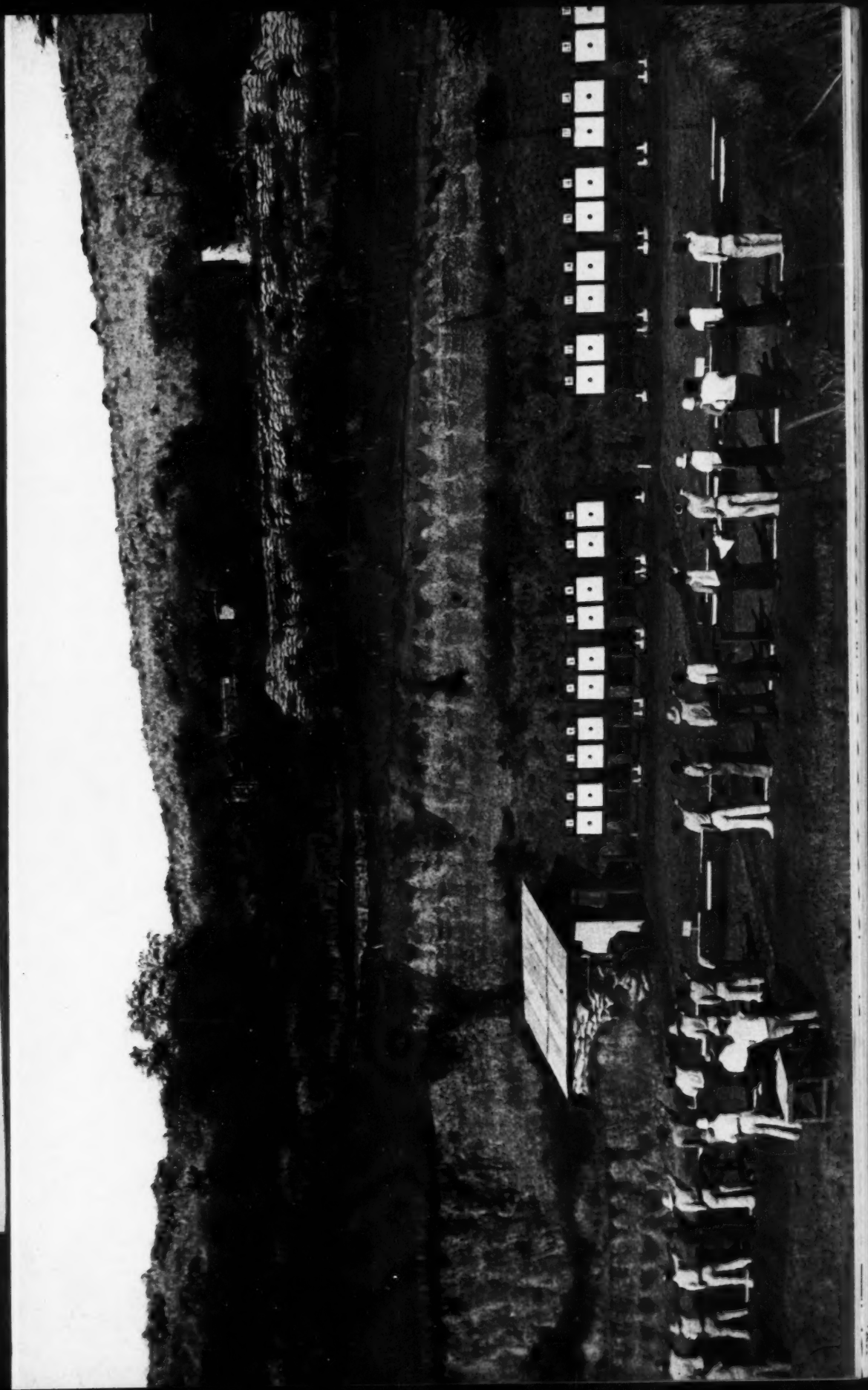


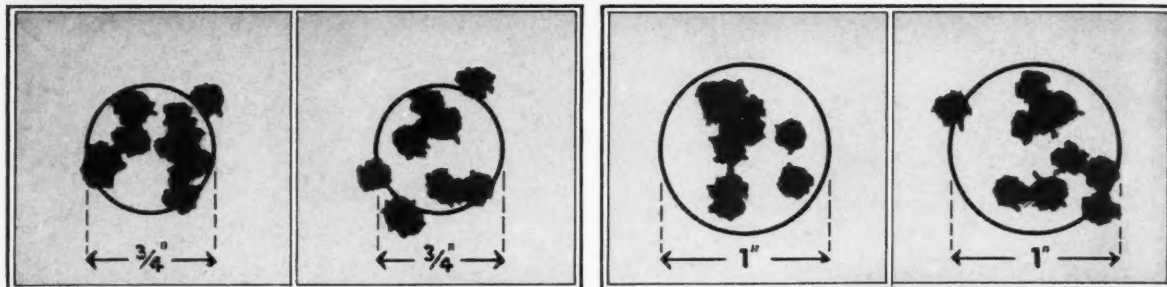
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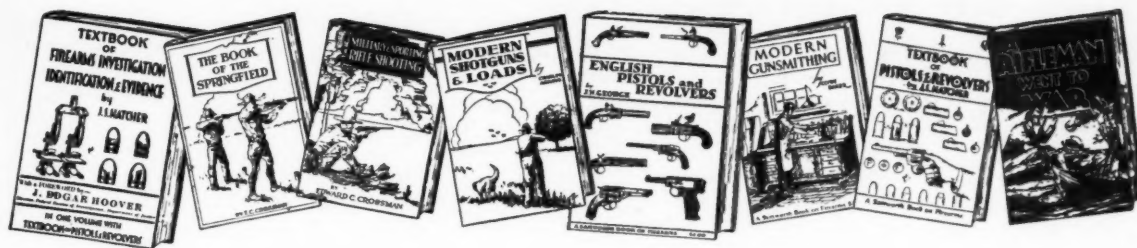
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The ballistics and comparative data of new Chuck Cartridges such as the .220 Swift, .22/3000—.22 Niedner Magnum and every other worthwhile load for connecting with the woodchuck at long ranges. This little manual, "The Woodchuck Hunter," by Paul C. Estes, is a popular, inexpensive book. Price, \$1.50.

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NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

COMING

BEGINNING NEXT MONTH with the April issue, we will institute a new department in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, dedicated expressly to the needs of the tyro and less-experienced handgun-shooter. This department will undertake to do for the handgun-shooter what The Old Coach's Corner is doing for the rifle-shooter: instruct in the elementary principles and aspects of guns, ammunition, ballistics, accessories, etc., as well as in the actual business of shooting a handgun. It will deal with all those things that the experienced shooter knows about and takes as a matter of course, but which confuse and bewilder the beginner, and render certain published articles unintelligible to him.

To conduct this handgun page each month we have chosen a man who by nature, education, and experience appears to be peculiarly fitted for the task—Walter F. Roper, late of Harrington & Richardson, and formerly of Smith & Wesson. With a splendid mechanical education, backed by wide experience in the design, manufacture, and actual use of handguns, Mr. Roper should be able to tell his readers the things they need to know to progress in the game.

And now the performance record of another new cartridge. This time it is the .270 Gipson Magnum, which was described in these columns some months ago, and proved itself in the game fields during the recent hunting season. Byron Cottrell tells the story—and Cottrell knows his rifles and his hunting, and no mistake. We expect to publish his article shortly.

"Tuning Up Small Bore Rifles" is the title of an article recently sent in by Paul W. Klipsch, in which he tells how he took a rifle that was performing in mediocre fashion, and experimented with and worked over it until he had it really shooting. Drawings illustrate the different major points mentioned, while reproductions of some of the groups shot indicate the result of certain changes in bedding.

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MARCH 1939

NUMBER 3

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POWDER SMOKE

PENDULUM

IT IS CHARACTERISTIC of the American to smile at the "emotionalism" of the Gallic and Latin temperament, the "sentimentalism" of the Celt, and the "romanticism" of the Slav. We pride ourselves that we are a "practical" people; but the record does not bear us out. Propelled by the very springs of emotionalism, sentimentalism, and romanticism at which we smile, the pendulum of American popular opinion and national policy swings violently from one extreme to another.

We become so enamored of reclamation and irrigation, that we ruin our farmers with a glut of production and destroy our game by destroying its breeding grounds. Then we attempt to save the farmer by paying him to not grow crops on the land we have previously paid to "reclaim"; and we set about saving our game by spending money to reflood and reforest land which we once enthusiastically drained and deforested.

We become one of the world's greatest military powers to save the world for democracy by force—and within a few years destroy our military machine in order to save the world for democracy by a pacific example.

We worry no end about the spread of Communism, and then make heroes of the Communist-Anarchist forces of "Loyalist" Spain because we dislike that Fascism which had its inception in the effort to abolish the Communism we had earlier ranted against.

We appropriate money to teach our citizens how to shoot—and pass laws to prevent their learning.

What has all this to do with us as sportsmen? Just this: the swings of the pendulum have become wider—and wilder—as the average American has seen more of city streets and less of the fresh-turned plow furrow and virgin forest; as his eyes have turned more to traffic

lights and less to misty marsh sunrises and irradiant mountain sunsets; as his ears have been attuned more to swing music on the radio and less to the organ in the tall pines, the fairy cymbals in the mountain stream, the drum beat in a horse's hoofs; as he has learned more from cloistered professors and less from Mother Nature.

The steady, dependable, clear-headed, fair-minded men; the men who have combined a true modesty with indomitable courage; the men who have established themselves as leaders and have been able to carry through without cracking mentally or physically in every great crisis of American history, have been men who were essentially out-of-doors men and sportsmen. In their moments of greatest stress they have turned to some flat rock on the bank of a tumbling stream, or a log in a wooded glade; to a creaking saddle and an open trail; and there, without books, without experts, alone with the clean, clear-cut verities of Nature around, about, and *within* them they have made their decisions, healed their hurts, and regained their strength to carry on as leaders of men.

The Pendulum swings, but so long as it is weighted by men whose delight is in the fields and the forests; men who love dogs and guns; men who can thrill to the rush of a buck or the rise of a covey, that Pendulum must persistently seek a resting-place in the sane middle ground between both extremes.

This Spring, a troubled one for the world, may Americans turn from their streets and highways to the woods and trails; from sitting and paying athletes to entertain them, to rising and doing for themselves; from aping others' thoughts and theories, to thinking for themselves—*out by themselves* except for the sun and wind and trees and the good earth. That way lies sanity—and an honorable Peace.

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GROUNDHOG'S REVENGE

By COL. H. P. SHELDON

IN VERMONT toward the latter part of February there begins a period that is woefully trying to gentlemen who have tired of skiing and bob sledding and who yearn for trout fishing, for crow shooting, and woodchuck sniping. The snow lies deep and dazzling over the wintry fields and in long ridged drifts at the roadsides. To the uninitiated winter appears to rule unchallenged, but the sky, first to signal the advance of a gentler, more comely season, has changed from a pale and faded color to a deep, crystalline blue, and on the hillsides the bare tracery of the hardwoods, gray throughout the preceding months, takes on a softer, warmer, mellower tone. It can scarcely be called color for it is nothing so definite—this subtle change that occurs when the trees feel again the faint stirrings of life beneath the rough, dead texture of their skins. It is a time of alternate freezing and thawing; of slush one day and hard, gray ice and bitter cold the next. A time of wet feet and painful falls.

In this particular year of our Lord it had been an especially bad time for Henry and the bluff Doctor. There had been a week of very promising weather—days when the snow sank visibly under the strengthening sun even though sub-zero temperatures coming down from the mountains at twilight clamped the world tightly again in a crackling, frosty grip. A few crows, the first to return, had appeared along the river, gathering their sustenance from the frozen fish, the dark red carcasses of skinned muskrats, and similar casualties and debris of the winter. The two sportsmen had found encouragement in these signs until one afternoon when a gray, cold bank of cloud drew up from the west. It had a tallowy look about it that Henry knew and didn't like. By the time the lights in the houses were put on that evening a wind from the north was slipping through the empty streets like a wolf, snuffling hungrily at the doors and windows as it passed.

"Another cussed blizzard!" Henry complained to his wife as he brought more wood to the fireplace.

Midnight brought proof of his prognostication when hard volleys of driven snow rattled against window panes like small shot.

The storm was still raging in the morning. By the next nightfall there was more snow than they had seen all winter, and Henry, who had been feeding on hope, was made so low and disconsolate by this shattering counter attack of Boreas that when the Doctor came plunging through the drifts with a long canvas case under his arm he found his friend by the fire mournfully reading a book of adventurings in the Arctic wilderness.

"Gives me some comfort," Henry explained, "to read about people in places that are colder and more generally damned desolate even than here; places where folks eat rotten, frozen fish and frozen, rotten little auks an' things, guts and all."

"Beautiful thought, beautifully expressed," said the Doctor, putting down the gun case—for such it was—and getting out of his coat, "and if you happen to have another noggin of that hot buttered rum you're quaffing I could do with it. Good for chilb'ains, bellyache, and hives."

Such is the goodly influence of hospitality, which blesses alike the giver and the recipient, that Henry felt considerably better and certainly was of lighter spirit when with flagon, hot water, sugar, lemon, cinnamon, and a sizable lump of butter, he had fixed a cheering potion for his friend and watched him sip at it and sniff the fragrant steam appreciatively.

With revived interest he inquired what in a blizzard was the Doctor lugging a gun for.

"Woodchucks," said the Doctor. "Not tonight, but in five or six weeks from now when the grass is up, the Indian pinks and lady slippers are blossoming, and you've forgotten what snow looks like."

"I'll never forget that. Besides, it ain't ever goin' to stop snowing," remarked Henry gloomily.

"Yes, it is. And when it does you and I are going to have some fun. We may even make considerable sums of money. Look!" He stripped the canvas case away from a long, thick-barreled weapon and offered it for examination. "Just came this afternoon," he explained. "It's a woodchuck rifle in case you never saw one. I bought it. You're to shoot it and we'll split profits even. Don't know so much about rifles myself, but Colonel Trigger, the firearms authority, ordered it for me. It's what they call a bull gun, a 267 Jee Zipper Zee or something like that. Weighs 14 pounds—puts 'em all on a dime at 100 yards. Got a telescope sight for it, too."

"Well, by Judas Priest!" his friend exclaimed as the true worthiness of the big rifle began to be understood. "You and Colonel Trigger have really bought us a rifle this time, an' no mistake!" With appreciative hand and eye he was busy testing the gun at every point.

"Intended to do so," the Doctor commented. "Always knew you could shoot better than any rifle you ever had. Thought I'd see if I could get one that can shoot better'n you can."

He sipped again at his hot drink.

"Did you ever hear of that feller over at Victory who has the fox and mink farm? They tell me he'll pay you twenty-five cents apiece for woodchucks. He uses them for feed. If you haven't lost the knack of rifle shooting I don't see why we can't pick up a nice little profit shooting woodchucks when the snow goes off."

The snow finally did go off, though to Henry the process seemed interminable and unnecessarily retarded by fresh storms which came like tax collectors, unwanted and unloved. There were days, however, when the weather was clear and warm and he could get out for a few hours with



the new rifle and test it at the target. The first group that he shot taught him that he hadn't previously understood what was meant by the term "gilt-edged accuracy." When the air was still and he was holding well, a little three-quarter-inch tab stuck on the black of the bullseye would, at an even 100 yards, be hit with from five to seven of ten bullets fired at it. He spent a good deal of time, too, working down the trigger pull and easing it up with an oil stone slip, and he fiddled with the big telescope until he was able to string a line of bullets up or down across the face of the target at fairly evenly spaced intervals.

At last the day came when nowhere along the greening hillsides could the eye discern even a lingering, stubborn patch of snow. The Doctor came in the morning to suggest an expedition in the afternoon.

"We'll go up the back road toward Wellsville. It's a ridge road and ought to be fairly dry by this time. Better take along our trout rods, too. We'll quit shooting in time to catch some fish and have supper at the shack. I'll pick you up in my car, Henry."

When he came Henry was ready with the big rifle and a pouchful of cartridges for it. He also had his beautiful four-ounce Chubb and a creel. As he stowed these things away he saw in the back of the car a big, slatted pine crate, one of the sort used by berry growers to transport a bushel of fruit.

"That's for the woodchucks," his friend explained, "and I got to thinking last night that if that fox farmer pays a quarter for a chuck he'll probably pay at least a dime apiece for crows, so we'll take 'em, too—if you can hit 'em."

It was a perfect day for the venture. Their ears were filled with the sound of running brooks and the air was fragrant with the smell of new grass, of fresh earth and springing, luxuriant foliage. It seemed to Henry that every post of the sagging rail fence at the roadside had a bluebird perched atop it ready to burst in an ecstatic puff of blue and buff feathers from sheer elation. The long muffled roll of cock grouse came frequently from the hillsides to remind them both of other days yet to come, when these same leaves that were now emerging from

the bud would be stained with the glorious farewell colors of autumn and there would be stern work for the bird guns in these environs.

The first woodchuck of the day Henry spied 200 yards away near a rock in a hill pasture, but when the car stopped the chuck legged it for a hole under the boulder and disappeared.

"Cagey one," remarked the Doctor, and was about to drive on when Henry stopped him. He had been examining the burrow with the telescope sight.

"He ain't all the way down," he reported. "He's got one ear and an eye over the edge and is watching us."

He slipped an arm into the gun sling, got out, and sat down on the running board.

"Gosh! You can't *bit* him!" exclaimed his friend, and was answered by the crash of the rifle. A cloud of dust flew from the boulder and Henry rose, climbed the fence, and went toward the target. The Doctor saw him stoop and lift the dead woodchuck which presently reposed quietly in the crate with a bullet hole through his grizzled head.

It appeared that every old field and pasture held a woodchuck or two, and those that didn't have chucks had crows stalking about at distances from the road that these sophisticated birds considered to be safe. A dozen times Henry with the big rifle and its tiny bullet was able to prove that the crows were wrong and a dozen times these mistaken birds joined the woodchucks in the Doctor's crate.

About this time a light, warning shadow of suspicion crossed Henry's mind. He knew the Doctor pretty well and it struck him all at once that the old boy's satisfaction over the number of victims in the crate was rather more than would seem warranted by the modest financial benefits in prospect. The surgeon had strange notions of humor at times. Henry considered all the possibilities and then inquired:

"Who's going to deliver all this fox food and get the money for it?"

The Doctor was disarmingly casual in his reply.

"Oh, let's decide that later, Henry. Why do you ask? You don't mean me to think that you'd consider it an undignified business, do you?"

"No-o, maybe not, but it's kinda warm for the time o' year and those critters ain't very fragrant even so soon."

"Don't give it another thought, my boy," his friend reassured him. "Why, we must have close to four dollars in that crate already. What more can you ask—fun *and* money! There's another—a hellish big black one! See him! Right at the edge of that patch of alders!"

Henry made an inspection with the scope.

"It's one of those soft-finished woodchucks," said he enigmatically, and fired.

When he came back to the car he was dragging with a gloved hand a huge tomcat by the tail.

"Can't bear to touch 'em barehanded alive or dead," he explained. "He was hunting woodcock nests up in those alders. How I despise 'em! An' worse yet I despise the folks that turn 'em loose in the name of mercy to prey on everything, rather than drown 'em, or shoot 'em or feed 'em. I suppose after all you can't blame the critters so much—killing's their nature—ours, too, come to think of it," he added, reflectively surveying the heap of woodchucks and crows that he had slain, before dropping the cat into the crate. Then he laughed a little ruefully. "Maybe some day there'll be a lot of superior creatures driving around the back roads and shooting at us humans. When they get one of us they'll say, 'Good shot! That damned scoundrel was after our woodcock, wasn't he?'"

"Serve us right, too," said his companion, "but I can't get tearful over a cussed tomcat. He had a good end. What more could you ask than to wind up in a patch of alder cover hunting woodcock and never knowing what hit you? Come on and we'll find some more chucks."

But Henry, for some reason, had little ardor left for woodchuck shooting.

"Shucks!" said he, "I've plugged enough of 'em for one day. This rifle—I never shot one like it. Can't seem to miss 'em. I guess it makes me feel a little bit too much the way the Almighty must feel when he has to go around on a nice spring day like this cracking down on people who ain't thinking of doing anything meaner than minding their own business and planting radishes in the garden." He gave an apologetic chuckle. "Let's call it a day and go down to Brazier Brook and get some trout for supper."

The suggestion had his friend's instant approval.

It was late when the two returned to the village, for they had caught their fish, and cooked them, and eaten them at the weatherbeaten cabin that served as a shelter on every occasion when their expeditions took them into this remote region. After supper they had sat for long on the cabin steps, smoking and conversing at intervals in low tones while they listened to the many-voiced brook and to the whippoorwill's plaintive music.

Nothing more had been said concerning the business of transporting an odorous crateful of woodchucks, crows, and tomcat to the fox farmer in Victory and exchanging it for cold cash, but if Henry had any suspicions, and he probably did have, they were justified. The next morning when he went to the garage to get his car he found the laden strawberry crate reposing suggestively on the back seat. He grinned appreciatively.

"I thought he was up to something! So the danged scoundrel came back later and sneaked 'em into my car, did he? Well, we'll fix that!"

He knew the Doctor's routine fairly well but it took him some time before he found his friend's car parked on Elm Street in front of old Mrs. Peabody's place.

Later they had lunch together, and anyone who understands the Yankee notion of humor would know that neither of the pair mentioned the crate and its ill-smelling contents. They never did, either.

On the following morning Henry found the thing back again in his own car, and this time, because the weather had been warm, he knew that it was there even before he opened the garage door.

There ensued two more days and nights during which time the crate surreptitiously changed cars four times.

"By Judas Priest!" said Henry finally. "Those chucks and crows and that danged tomcat have more'n got even for anything we did to 'em! About one more day of this and they'll be able to change cars themselves without any help from anybody!"

It couldn't go on forever, and on the fifth day, at the 131st hour of the siege, the Doctor broke.

The Doctor did the thing that was equivalent to running up the white flag.





Late that night when the streets were deserted the defeated surgeon carried the crate gingerly to his car and drove to the center of the low arch that spans the North Branch where that stream passes under Main Street. No one was in sight when he lifted the Thing to the railing, and he thought no one was in sight when, gasping and choking, he tipped the horrid compost off the rail and heard it strike the current with a splash and a foul, loathsome gurgle.

"Good evenin' to yez, Docther," said a voice, and there at his startled elbow stood Officer Minogue of the Municipal Force. In fact, Officer Minogue *was* the Municipal Force.

"Ye're abroad late, Docther," the officer remarked in friendly phrase and was about to continue with some further pleasantries when the last frightful breath from the departing woodchucks, crows and tomtomcat rose dankly from the stream and crossed his broad Celtic nostrils.

"Holy mackerel! Docther! What is ut, then, that ye just heaved into the strame below? Ah, sorrow, sorrow! I niver smelt the loikes of it!"

Then another thought came into his honest policeman's skull.

"Docther, 'twas garbage! An' well ye know the ordinance agin heavin' garbage into the strame within the town limits."

The gaze he speared the Doctor with was anxious and reproachful, for they were friends, but it was also stern and accusatory, for he was a conscientious public servant.

The Doctor thought fast.

"Listen, Patrick. You are a man of discretion." His voice sank to the level of one about to impart a solemn confidence. "I'll have to tell you that in the public interest we surgeons must sometimes do things up at the laboratory which are better not talked about. You understand."

Words leaped into the mind of Officer Minogue—awful words, ghastly words and hints but half believed when he had heard them.

"'Tis true thin!" he thought. "The black stories you do be hearin' about what they do with the poor bodies!"

"Of course," the Doctor went on, "we have to dispose of queer things sometimes. I'll hold you to silence, but as an officer of the law, I think you're entitled to know that what I just dumped was —"

There was no lack of physical courage in the Minogue line with its traditions of the Boyne Wather and Clare's

Brigade at Fontenoy, not to mention some hundreds of other peoples' quarrels happily participated in the world over, but all heritage of his fighting ancestors couldn't prepare the Irishman for this sort of thing.

"Tell me no more, Doctor, dear!" he cried in a panic. "I want no part in this ghastly business!"

He fled the scene forthwith, muttering to himself as he did so: "Ah, to think of it now! A poor felly can't be sure of decent Christian burial—cut into bits and thrun into the strame. God save us all!"

And that's the tale, except that once, a long time afterward, Henry, walking with his friend, the Doctor, met the Municipal Force on the street one evening and thought he noticed something odd and furtive.

"By Judas Priest, Doc! When you spoke to Minogue just then it seemed to me that he crossed himself!"

"Did he?" said the Doctor, in a preoccupied way. "Did he now, indeed? That's extremely curious. But then the Irish are a very superstitious race."

My Apologies, Gentlemen

Since my suggestion in the January RIFLEMAN that Ultra Short Wave Radio be used for communication on the rifle range, a great many letters have been received from Amateurs advising that the new regulations of the Federal Communications Commission forbid the use of the simple "modulated oscillator" on the 5 Meter wave length, the new regulation having gone into effect on December 1, 1938.

Being a licensed operator I was aware of the change, but forgot about the article sent to the RIFLEMAN, as otherwise I would have made the necessary correction and recommended the 2½ Meter wave length instead of the 5 Meter.

Several Amateurs have stated that the 2½ Meter band is not suitable for this work, but that does not agree with my findings, and the various handbooks all show perfectly good diagrams of circuits for transceivers on 2½ meters, which I have found work well.

I suggest that any club interested in this very simple solution to the communication problem, put the matter up to a local Radio Amateur, as I am sure he will be able to give them most pleasing results.

WALTER F. ROPER.

DIRECTORS' MEETING, 1939

THE 68th Annual Meeting of the board of directors of the National Rifle Association was marked by the attendance of the largest group of Directors, members and friends of the Association ever present.

Continuing the precedent of last year, another Open Forum on Friday morning introduced the two-day meeting. The subject was the "Extension of club and league activity in senior and junior clubs, including high school and summer camp rifle clubs." The Discussion Leaders were Captain R. C. Wilson, rifle instructor of the Grover Cleveland High School, St. Louis, Mo., a successful junior leader in both high school and summer camp, and Mr. E. M. Farris, Secretary of the N. & W. Railroad Y.M.C.A. of Portsmouth, Ohio, a man who has been for many years active in the rifle game, both with senior and junior clubs, international team organization and in late years the outstanding leader of the Muzzle Loading Rifle group.

Following their prepared talks, questions and answers on the part of the entire group provided the informal spark which set off an exchange of promotion ideas, to indicate to Officers and Directors the way the wind was blowing in this conflagration of rifle and pistol interest throughout the country.

The Election of Officers

Gustavus D. Pope of Detroit, Michigan, presiding at the business meeting of the afternoon as President of the N.R.A., completed his term of two years to which the by-laws of the association limits any individual. In giving way to the newly elected President, he spoke of his pleasure in serving the association for this period and expressed his good wishes for its continued progress. Following the distinguished leadership of Mr. Pope, the association seems again fortunate in its selection of a President.

Colonel L. W. T. Waller, Jr., of Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania, our new President, is a rifleman, a well trained and experienced one. In 1906 when his father, Major General L. W. T. Waller of the Marines was commanding the Norfolk Barracks, young Waller started his first real rifle competition. Before he was commissioned he shot with the team squad firing on the Norfolk range at Camp Harrington. Two years later in Peking, China, Waller, who had been sent there from Panama and so missed firing on the famous 1908 team with a "Captain Holcomb," was abetted in his rifle interests by this same Captain who followed Waller to this station, the familiar figure all Camp Perry followers now know, Major General Thomas Holcomb, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps.

"Tommy" Holcomb arranged some international matches in Peking among the nine nations there who had legation guards. He and Waller made up the two-man team which won every match, Waller discarding the familiar Krag with which the Marines in China were armed and using for the first time, a Springfield brought along by Holcomb. In 1912 Waller trained and captained the Mare Island Marine team in the inter-post matches at Bremerton, Washington, and went on to fire with the Marine team later that year.

1913 is a year our new President likes to recall in terms of rifle competition. He had as team mate on the Marine team, Tommy Holcomb, and then on the winning Palma international team, Major K. K. V. Casey. That year, Waller placed second in the National Individual.

He was at Vera Cruz in 1914. He served with distinction in France in command of 2nd Battalion, 38th Infantry, 3rd Division, and took the 8th Machine Gun Battalion, 3rd Division,

through the action at Chateau Thierry. Then he went back to command his old outfit, the 6th Machine Gun Battalion, until October 1918, when he was made division machine gun officer of the 2nd Division.

In 1919 he was back in rifle competition again, with the A.E.F. rifle team for the inter-allied games. In 1922 he organized and commanded the international match team of that year, winning from the Swiss at Milan. He also captained the American team at the 1924 international and Olympic matches in France.

He has hunted big game in Alaska and the Yukon and is an inveterate upland game and duck hunter as well as a skeet and trap shot. Among his awards are the Distinguished Service Cross of the Navy; the Order of the Purple Heart covering one army and two division citations; the French Legion D'Honneur; the Croix de Guerre, three palms; the Victory Medal, five bars; the Mexican Campaign Medal and the Marine Expeditionary Medal.

The complete list of officers and additional members of the Executive Committee for the coming year is as follows:

President Colonel L. W. T. Waller, Jr.,
Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania.
Vice-President Colonel N. C. Nash,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Executive Vice-

President Major General M. A. Reckord
Secretary-Treasurer Mr. C. B. Lister,
Lt. Col. J. S. Hatcher, Ordnance Dept. U. S. A.
Major Francis W. Parker, Chicago, Illinois.
Mr. Thurman Randle, Dallas, Texas.
Mr. Raymond C. Bracken, Columbus, Ohio.
Colonel B. W. Mills, the Director of Civilian Marksmanship.
Lt. Col. W. W. Asburst, U. S. M. C.
Dr. Emmet O. Swanson, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
Judge Hilliard Comstock, Los Angeles, California.
Mr. E. E. Cooke, Meriden, Connecticut.
Mr. J. W. Woolrey, Canon City, Colo.
Mr. Mark Cooper, Rome, Georgia.

Mr. G. D. Pope, Detroit, Mich., was elected a member of the permanent Executive Council.

The three directors elected to fill vacancies are:

Lt. Col. H. D. Linscott, U. S. M. C.
L. A. Pope, Los Angeles, Calif.
Wm. P. Schweitzer, Hillside, New Jersey.

The Board adopted resolutions of sympathy to the members of the families of Captain E. C. Crossman and Major K. K. V. Casey, two Directors who had died during the year, and remained standing in a minute of silence in their memory.

It was also resolved that officers of the association be empowered to seek from Congress an act of incorporation, for a national charter.

Other resolutions adopted touched on the need of increased range facilities of .30 caliber shooting, and the loan of rifles and ammunition to members of civilian teams for practice prior to reporting at Camp Perry.

Life Membership Now \$50

The by-laws of the National Rifle Association were amended as follows:

Article 2, Section 2, paragraph 4, changed to read:

"(4) Life Member—Who shall upon payment of \$50.00 become a member for life."

This amendment to the by-laws, of course, is not retroactive and its acceptance by the Board means that future applications for life membership must be accompanied by remittance of \$50.00. The interest from this amount at the present low return on investments, will just cover the cost of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

Again the sociable annual dinner Friday evening topped off the day's events. Two unusually interesting and informative speeches highlighted an evening of conviviality and renewed friendships among official and military Washington, guests, members and friends of the Association.

The speakers, Brig. Gen. George C. Marshall, Deputy Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, and Brig. Gen. H. A. Pickert, Commissioner of Police, Detroit, Michigan, outlined before this gathering the importance of marksmanship in our national security at home or abroad.

General Pickert urged the training of citizens in the use of small arms to assist the work of law enforcement when needed, as well as national defense. "I know of no phase in this national security more necessary than civilian marksmanship." He further anticipated the second speaker's remarks with the statement, "there is no greater asset we can give our military commanders than a large group of citizens trained in the use of rifles and small arms." He then emphasized the need of the police officer for this type of training and pointed to the program instituted in Detroit which has accounted for the reduction in ratio of officers killed by thugs from the former one officer to three criminals to the present one officer to eleven thugs.

General Marshall's address stressed the importance of the foot soldier armed with rifle and machine gun in the winning of any war. "You always hear of the exploits of the bombing planes, of air maneuvers, because of the drama and color involved. But you never hear of the foundation of any army—the man with the rifle." The principles for which the association stands, the preservation of that confidence of the militiaman which comes from his well-founded marksmanship ability, were lauded by the General as a peace-time training which otherwise would go unheeded. He drew attention to the fact that "it is almost impossible to simulate war conditions in peace time."

Seated at the head table as guests of honor were: Gen. Marshall, Gen. Pickert, Brig. Gen. A. B. Critchfield, Dr. H. C. Byrd, president of the Maryland University; Senator Ernest Lundeen, of Minnesota; Gustavus D. Pope, immediate past president of the association; Col. L. W. T. Waller, Jr., president and master of ceremonies; Gen. Malin D. Craig, Army Chief of Staff; Maj. Gen. M. A. Reckord, and Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado.

Other guests among the more than 250 persons present included J. Monroe Johnson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce; Congressmen Starnes of Alabama, Holmes of Massachusetts, Mapes of Michigan, Thomason of Texas, and Lea of California.

The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee indicated its approval of a plan to alternate the sending abroad of rifle and pistol teams.

The desire to send an American small bore team to the International Matches at Lucerne, Switzerland, was again emphasized, but the tentative program is unsatisfactory. If an adjustment can not be arranged a team will be sent to England to attempt the recovery of the Pershing Trophy.

Definite steps were taken to begin the establishment of Regional Small Bore and Pistol Championships ranking second to the National Matches and superior to the average Registered Tournament.

A class system for all Registered Tournaments, based on averages established in 1938 registered matches, is being

considered to give every shooter a chance to fire within his own classification.

A sub-committee was appointed to consider these and other rule changes. This group was divided into committees of three for special attention to each of the competitive divisions of pistol, small bore rifle and big bore rifle. It was thought that in this way the shooters would have more personal consideration, a friend at court as it were, for their respective sport. The newly elected N. R. A. President, Colonel Waller of Meadowbrook, Pennsylvania, is the chairman. The pistol committee, all experienced shooters, is made up of R. C. Bracken, 1219 Bryden Road, Columbus, Ohio; Karl Frederick, 61 Broadway, New York City, and L. M. Rumsey, 4372 Westminster Place, St. Louis, Missouri.

The small bore committee: Thurman Randle, 208 North Akard Street, Dallas, Texas; E. O. Swanson, 3316 18th Avenue, South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Major Francis W. Parker, Jr., 8 South Michigan Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

The big bore committee: General F. M. Waterbury, 70 East 45th Street, New York City; Colonel W. W. Ashurst, Quantico, Virginia, and Colonel B. W. Mills, Washington, D. C.

The immediate items for consideration are mainly for the pistol committee. The suggestion of reducing the time limit for 25 yards slow fire from one minute per shot to one half minute per shot for the expert class of shooters and the scoring of ten shot strings instead of five shot strings as at present for 50 yard slow fire shooting, was taken under advisement.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

"The year 1938 marked the fourth definite milestone in the history of organized rifle shooting in America. The first was unquestionably the challenge from the Irish Riflemen which resulted in the organization of the National Rifle Association and the establishment of the Creedmoor Range in the early seventies of the past century. The second was the recognition by Congress of the Association's plea for the establishment of annual Federally recognized National Rifle Matches at the beginning of the current century. The third was the acceptance by Congress of the Association's theory that Civilian Rifle Clubs should be recognized as an important element in our national defense plans, with the result that provision for the issue and sale of equipment to properly organized civilian rifle clubs was provided for in the National Defense Act of 1916.

There are a number of elements composing the fourth milestone erected by the Association in 1938. The immediately visible feature is the new National Headquarters Building. In the sixty-seventh year of its existence, our Association finally has acquired its own home and has visibly established itself in the Nation's Capital in a manner which will add measurably to its prestige as well as to operating efficiency.

The second element marking this fourth milestone was the final acceptance by Congress of the theory advanced by the Association as a reasonable, workable law to discourage the criminal use of firearms. In its importance to civilian small arms practice, the adoption by Congress of the law now known as Public Act 785 represented a legislative milestone equaling if not surpassing the act establishing the National Matches.

The third outstanding feature of the 1938 milestone has been the general acceptance by outstanding sports writers and by radio broadcasters of the fact that rifle and pistol shooting is today in fact an organized sport of national interest from the sporting standpoint."

Individual Membership

An unusual feature of this unusual year is that such a definite advance should have been made during a year of generally unsatisfactory business conditions. Because of our comparatively low unit of sale price, our business may perhaps best be compared with that of the mail order houses and department stores. Reports for these lines indicate an average decline in dollar volume of approximately 8% under 1937. During the same period we were able to show an increase of approximately 7% in Individual Memberships, 7% in

senior club affiliations, and 23% in junior club affiliations. Actual figures are tabulated below:

	Annual Members	Life Members	*All Members	Senior Clubs	Junior Clubs	State Assns.
1928	23,400	1,866	25,471	1,672	524	15
1937	36,760	7,869	45,802	2,037	927	32
1938	40,088	8,482	49,316	2,175	1,151	36

* Includes Endowment, deferred payment Life, etc.

Because of the increase in cost of servicing Life Members in the face of declining yields in the investment market, no campaign for the enrollment of Life Members was conducted during 1938. Nevertheless, 660 new Life Members were added to our rolls during the year.

Senior Clubs

The increase in senior clubs was particularly gratifying in view of the fact that the Director of Civilian Marksmanship has for a number of years stabilized the issue of equipment on a basis of 1600 senior clubs. The continued growth of senior club enrollment to a total of 2,175 units therefore indicates clearly a growing acceptance of the idea that rifle and pistol clubs are sportsmen's organizations conducting programs worthy of shooters' support without the benefit of War Department subsidy.

Our activities in promoting pistol and revolver shooting are having an increasing effect in the maintenance and improvement of local club activities. While only a few of the newly affiliated clubs devote their activities exclusively to pistol shooting, a considerable number of the older clubs have organized Pistol Divisions and reports to us indicate increases in membership of 25% to 100% as a result of the addition of this activity to the club program. In some cases clubs which were on the point of dissolution have been revived and are now operating almost exclusively as pistol and revolver clubs.

Police

We have continued our effort to encourage police pistol training, and the number of Police Departments maintaining some type of pistol range and pistol instruction is constantly increasing. From the standpoint of Association membership, however, police pistol shooting activity has little effect, as very few Police Departments affiliate clubs with the Association and only a minute percentage of the police pistol shooters become Individual Members of the Association. We feel that this activity is, however, a public service of such importance that it should be aggressively forwarded so long as the general revenues of the Association are ample to permit its continuance.

State Associations

The continued growth in the number of State Associations is a logical development following on the increased number of active clubs in the various states. In a majority of cases we find that the principal underlying reason for the organization of these new State Associations is the desire on the part of the scattered clubs to get together in such a way as to insure a fair chance for all club members to win a place for themselves on the Civilian State Team at the National Rifle Matches. During the period when the National Matches were not being held it was notable that a majority of the State Associations had difficulty in maintaining a truly state-wide organization.

Junior Activity

The increase in Junior Club activity is consistent and encouraging. It may be traced directly to our continued campaign pointing out that junior rifle training is in fact a safety campaign, just as is junior swimming instruction. This angle of approach, coupled with the outstanding safety record for junior rifle ranges, is gradually resulting in a complete change of viewpoint on the part of parents, school authorities and boys' work leaders. They are coming to view junior rifle shooting as a highly desirable safety training project instead of looking on it as a most undesirable dangerous activity.

A total of 71,811 junior qualification awards was made during 1938 as compared with 68,436 in 1937.

Competitions

The desire of the shooters for standardized conditions and properly conducted tournaments was evidenced by an increase of over 25% in the number of registered small bore and pistol events. There was a total of 111 registered tournaments conducted during the year.

Members of the Headquarters Staff traveled a total of 129,000 miles during the year attending these various tournaments, and referees appointed by the Association, principally from among our

Board of Directors, traveled an additional 11,000 miles on the same missions.

The year was also noteworthy from the standpoint of the raising of records to new altitudes, particularly among the pistol men. Some of the national records established in 1938 seemed to be so close to the highest possible score that it is difficult to see how they can be raised any higher in future years.

The work of our Competitions Division in establishing and maintaining the multitude of records required has been one of the least thought about but most important tasks of the past three years. Until such records were established and publicized, rifle and pistol shooting alone of all the nationally recognized sports was without a generally recognized table of comparisons for competitors to shoot at and for sports writers to write about. This year for the first time in the history of the small bore game we tabulated the tournament averages over the Dewar Course of all registered competitors. The publication of these averages early in 1939 will make it possible for clubs all over the United States to fairly classify small bore riflemen in local tournaments.

Our home range or postal matches which for many years represented the backbone of the small bore and pistol shooting game are becoming less important as the registered tournaments and local leagues increase in number. During the indoor season the number of entries in postal matches as a whole compared favorably with the preceding season, but it was an increase in the number of entries in the tyro events, offsetting the decrease in open events, which made such a favorable comparison possible.

The time seems to be rapidly approaching when the long established postal match system will be outmoded in favor of registered tournaments and local league schedules. From the standpoint of the National Rifle Association, this will be a desirable development, as the postal matches are conducted at a loss, while the increase in local league schedules will mean materially increased club activity and stronger local units.

The action of the National Association in establishing Restricted Class competitions at Camp Perry was so favorably received by shooters that an increasing number of registered tournaments are adopting this plan, with material benefit to the game as a whole.

The Association was again able to cooperate with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau by handling the Individual Company and Regimental Gallery Championships for the Chief of the National Guard Bureau's Trophies. Interest in this series of Matches is steadily increasing as a result of the increased appreciation by National Guard Officers of the value of the .22 caliber rifle as a training weapon.

Legislation

In the legislative field, the passage by Congress of the so-called Copeland Firearms Law, based on the theories of Federal firearms control advocated by the National Association, was the outstanding feature of the year.

Due to the activities of the former Attorney General, there appears to be a general trend in the direction of the enactment of State Laws requiring the registration of all firearms, even though the proponents are unable to point out just how such laws will in practice serve to discomfit any except honest citizens.

Perhaps because of labor troubles, co-mingled with hysteria relative to Communism and Fascism, there is also a growing tendency for city councils to enact city ordinances imposing unnecessary restrictions or, in many cases, prohibitive taxes on the operation of rifle and pistol ranges.

Eternal vigilance and close-knit organization is becoming increasingly essential if our progress in stimulating interest in small arms marksmanship is not to be nullified by short-sighted legislative enactment.

Publicity

Our public relations have been materially improved during the past year. Largely as a result of personal contacts, we have for the first time been able to secure the active cooperation of several of the nationally known writers of syndicated sports columns. By having our own Public Relations staff attend various large registered tournaments, we have also been able to assist local shooters in establishing contacts with their newspapers and radio stations and have shown them that banner heads on the sports page can be obtained for rifle and pistol shooting as well as for other sports. Such contacts, once established, become invaluable in securing future publication of releases sent out during the year from the Washington office.

By reason of the whole-hearted cooperation of Colonel Endicott, the Executive Officer of the National Matches, and Major Rogers, his Publicity Officer, we were also able to place some of our own staff men in the National Match Publicity Office and, working together with Major Rogers, it was possible to obtain more publicity for the 1938 National Matches than ever before.



Our camp on Snow Creek

THE .285 DUPLEX ON GAME

By ELMER KEITH

NOTE: Because of the widespread interest in the new .285 Duplex cartridge, we pressed Mr. Keith for further information about it. Keith replied that until the cartridge had been fully covered by patents, he could give no information as to its details and method of loading, but he sent us this article on its performance in the game fields. While in cold print some of the details of the killings may appear a bit gruesome, authentic information on bullet performance is of great importance to all hunters with the rifle, enabling them to kill their game more cleanly and humanely. Incidentally, certain remarks of Keith's lead us to believe that these O. K. H. Duplex loads are not based upon the mixing of two or more different powders in the cartridge case as some have inferred, though what the actual principle of the thing is, we do not know.—Editor

WE HAD DESIGNED THE .285 O. K. H. Duplex cartridge with the definite idea of producing the finest long-range cartridge in the world for such game as sheep, goat, antelope, and mule deer. Steel-penetration and trajectory tests proved that we had the flattest-shooting and highest-velocity cartridge with long 180-grain bullets ever produced. Tests showed it to be also one of the most accurate cartridges that either O'Neil, Houkins, or I had ever used. The trajectory with 180-grain bullets over 400 yards range proved to be the same as that of the .300 H. & H. Magnum factory load over 300 yards. Steel-penetration tests showed much deeper penetration than either the .280 Dubiel Magnum or the .300 Magnum with 180-grain bullets. Needless to say, Charlie, Don, and I were all anxious to see what the cartridge would do when actually turned upon big game.

Don carried a restocked Model 70 Winchester fitted by O'Neil with a rather light Sukalle barrel of 26-inch length, on a long pack trip into the Alberta Rockies. The rifle was fitted with Lyman Alaskan scope in Niedner mounts.

Don decided to use only the 160-grain W. T. and C. bullet with Duplex loads put up by Charlie and me. The outfit proved to be better than his wildest dreams had pictured. Hunting under Ray Mustard, he killed one mule buck, one bighorn ram, and two billy goats. I will give the details of the shots.

Number one was a large bighorn ram, distance from 100 to 110 yards. Ram was bedded with rump toward Don and body slightly quartering to left. Due to a high, gusty wind moving his rifle, Don missed the first shot. Second shot struck the rump about five inches below and slightly left of root of tail. The ram gave one or two convulsive twitches, and died in his bed. The 160-grain bullet shattered the left hip near the socket, pulverized the top of left ham, and penetrated on into the spine, shattering it also. Bullet completely disintegrated, only tiny fragments being found.

Number two was a big buck mule deer with 13 points all told. Distance 225 to 235 yards. First shot struck high on shoulder blade, dropping the buck instantly. This

160-grain bullet shattered the tops of both shoulders, and completely severed the spine. A large area of flesh surrounding the wound was pulverized, and some fragments went into lungs. A portion of bullet emerged on off side through one-inch hole. Only one small fragment of point of bullet jacket was found in the deer. The buck seemed stunned for a couple of minutes, and this one shot would have caused death in a few seconds more, but as he recovered enough to feebly raise his head, Don gave him another at ten yards range. This bullet entered a foreleg and continued on into the neck, shattering the spine. The leg bone was also completely exploded. The explosive effect was almost unbelievable, and some twenty or more small pieces of the leg bone were driven into the other foreleg. Results looked as if the buck had been struck with a shotgun charge. The bullet completely disintegrated in the spine of the neck, and stopped there, and only minute fragments were found. This second shot clearly shows the results of very high-velocity missiles fired into game at close range. Entrance hole of this bullet was one inch in diameter, showing immediate expansion upon impact. A very large area of flesh was simply pulped around the bullet wound.

Number three, a large billy goat, was taken at a distance of 380 to 400 yards. Goat was lying down, and the 160-grain bullet struck left side of neck, killing instantly. It emerged on right side of neck, tearing three-inch exit hole. Part of the neck spine was shattered, and the windpipe and jugular vein were completely destroyed. Rear end of lower jaw was broken, and also one tooth, by bullet fragments. Again the bullet evidently completely disintegrated, with the same large area of pulped flesh around the wound, and the same identical performance as of shots at closer ranges.

Number four. Another extra-large billy goat. It was killed at 380 to 400 yards, running. Don held on top of shoulders for first two shots, and went over both times. Then he held about one-third way up on the goat, and stopped him cold with a 160-grain bullet broadside in paunch just back of lungs. The billy was definitely stopped but still on his feet, so Don gave him another, that struck about six inches above the brisket. The goat half leaped and half fell from his ledge, and died where he fell. The first 160-grain W. T. and C. bullet went clear through the paunch and ranged upward at an angle, as the goat was up a steep mountain. The bullet tore a one-inch exit hole. This slug simply blew up the insides of the animal, and only small fragments of it were found. The second bullet blew up completely in the chest, and did not emerge at all, but demolished the lungs. Don had sighted his rifle to strike 3 inches high at 100 yards, and found that with this sighting it struck the exact point of aim at 400 yards. He said he had never seen anything else that would equal the load for shocking and killing power out at long game ranges. I believe this billy would have dropped dead from the first shot if given a very few seconds of time. These four head of game clearly demonstrate that the 160-grain .285 O. K. H. Duplex cartridge will expand its bullets reliably at much longer ranges, if necessary.

I carried my own .285 O. K. H. Duplex rifle on a long boat trip down the Salmon River. The rifle was fitted with a Niedner medium-weight 26-inch barrel chambered by O'Neil. A Remington action was used, with Adriance set trigger and a fine prone stock by O'Neil. It was also fitted with Weaver 330-C scope by M. L. Stith, in his mounts. I carried only the 180-grain W. T. and C.-bullet Duplex loads on this trip, as I preferred this weight of bullet, well knowing from many years' experience with the .300 Magnum and .280 Dubiel that the new cartridge would simply

blow up even such long heavy bullets. As I was guiding I had little opportunity myself to use the outfit, but loaned it to "Tex" to kill his goat. Distance 100 to 110 yards, shooting down the mountain from the top of one cliff to the top of another below us. Goat was medium-sized and standing broadside. Tex placed his one shot exactly behind the rear shoulder. The goat dropped, then regained his feet and milled around in a small circle (probably five yards across) for a couple of seconds, and then went down again, for good. The 180-grain bullet tore a three-inch hole all the way through the lungs, heart, and off shoulder, and made an exit hole of four inches. Tiny bits of lead and copper were found all around the exit hole and throughout the wound channel. I checked carefully where the goat stood, and could find evidence of only tiny fragments having struck the ground on the other side. If the bullet had held together I would have found evidence of it in the soft wet earth. This single shot was an ideal performance on mountain goat.

Near the end of the trip I purposely camped on a good deer crossing one night, with the intention of busting a good buck the next morning from the boat. The older we get the lazier we become, and the more we use our heads. No use climbing a lot of steep mountains and killing a buck on top of one, and then having to cut him in half and make a couple of laborious trips with the pack board, if you can get them to come into camp. That morning I was up first, started a cook fire, and woke up the cook, the while continually watching the mountain back of camp. So far I had seen only a doe, and that the evening before as we made camp, but plenty of tracks showed conclusively that deer crossed the river there. Finally I walked down to the boat and awoke my partner. Then, glancing back up the mountain, I saw my buck walk out on the skyline, and look us over. I lost no time slipping into the scow and dragging my rifle from the case.

I just had time to turn it up the hill with my left hand between the forestock and the sweep beam, when the old boy decided he had seen plenty, and turned and started walking back down the other side of the ridge, out of sight. I had no choice but a flank shot ranging forward into the lungs. As I did not want to hit a ham, I held the crosshairs on the right flank, and touched the set trigger. Only rump, flank, and horns were visible, but at the shot I could clearly see that first convulsive leap, out of sight. Later we picked up his tracks, and trailed him around the mountain for eighty yards, when his jumps became shorter. Then, looking down the mountain we found him dead, lying where he had rolled. The distance, as nearly as we could estimate it up such a steep mountain, was from 250 to 300 yards.

The rifle was perfectly zeroed for 300 yards on the target, and the bullet hit exactly where I held on the right flank. As it was a raking shot, the entrance hole was a slit four inches in length; then the 180-grain slug blew off the top of the liver, and completely disintegrated, all particles stopping in the lungs. The paunch was not touched. Penetration, from entrance to where last particles of bullet stopped in lungs, was around 22 to 24 inches. It was the first time I had ever seen a 180-grain slug from any high-velocity rifle blow up as completely at this range, several mule deer and goats shot at 300 to 350 yards with the .280 Dubiel and the same bullet showing good expansion but no disintegration. In these cases the bullets were always found expanded under the skin of the chest from such raking shots. The difference in performance can be due to only one thing: greatly increased velocity.



The rifle as finally arranged, with 18¼-inch barrel and Weaver scope

THE .357 S. & W. MAGNUM

By F. C. NESS

COLONEL D. B. WESSON has proven, at least to his own satisfaction, that the .357 S. & W. Magnum cartridge, fired in the revolver bearing his name, will kill American big game. His bag of several species with a Smith & Wesson revolver of this caliber is ample proof of that. However, since big game has been killed with the lowly .22 rim fire, such exploits, admirable though they may be, do not prove anything further, nor do they establish any comparable rating of relative killing power for the cartridge. That is to say, we are left believing that he would have been better armed with a .44-40 carbine, and assuredly so with a .351 Self Loading Winchester, although both these rifle cartridges are comparatively weak among sporting calibers.

Regardless of its adequacy as a big-game cartridge, which we doubt but do not dispute here, we are interested in the .357 S. & W. Magnum because of its unique position, on top of the heap of contemporary handgun calibers in the matter of chamber pressure, muzzle velocity and paper energy. In the realm of revolver ballistics such figures as 33,000 pounds, 1500 foot-seconds and 800 foot-pounds are quite impressive. Obviously they imply a heavy, superlatively strong and well-made arm, a swift and flat-shooting load and a hard-hitting bullet. These attributes are all possessed by this fine Smith & Wesson creation, the world's top-ranking revolver.

Because the gun itself is strong in material and design and the case is strongly constructed (solid head) and long (1/10th inch longer than the .38 Special case) handloaders like the .357 S. & W. Magnum for developing special long-range handloads. However, extremists among those who handload the .44 S. & W. Special revolver cartridge claim their handloads are more potent in shock effect and more powerful in penetrative ability and in punch. Both sides can support their arguments with tangible evidence and each individual owner or advocate of either caliber is welcome to his own opinion as far as we are concerned. It is true, however, that in factory loads the .45 Colt 900 f.-s. black-powder cartridge approaches nearest to the paper power of the .357 S. & W. Magnum.

In the 3¼-, 6½- and 8¼-inch revolver barrels, and according to Hatcher's momentum formula, the .357 S. & W. Magnum would rank in relative shocking power as follows:

Cartridge	Velocity	Power
.357 Mag.	1500 f.-s.	67.9
"	1400 "	63.4
"	1280 "	57.6
.45 Colt	910 "	87.4
"	770 "	73.6
.38 A.C.P.	1107 "	29.5
"	1250 "	33.0
9-mm.	1048 "	28.4
"	1100 "	30.1
.38-44	1125 "	39.4
.45 A.C.P.	840 "	62.9
"	940 "	78.0

This leader in velocity and energy among all factory handgun loads depends on an 8¼-inch barrel for attaining its maximum ballistics as advertised. Even with a 6½-inch barrel it has 1400 f.-s. muzzle velocity remaining and then still leads. With the 3¼-inch barrel, popular among law-enforcement groups, it develops 1280 f.-s. and equals the Super .38 Colt pistol in muzzle velocity and exceeds the latter's high-velocity load in paper energy and in killing power. The Super .38 Colt bullet weighs 20 grains less and is harder and smoother on account of its metal jacket, that of the .357 Magnum being solid lead alloy and flat ended.

Many fine scores have been made with the short-barrel model, the 3¼-inch barrel having broken into the 90's at 50 yards on several occasions. The long-barrel model has been used successfully in two-hand rest shooting over extremely long ranges, or up to 300 yards. When we made our direct acquaintance with the .357 Magnum we assayed this 8¼-inch model, because we wanted all the power facilities available in this caliber. We found it somewhat muzzle-heavy and awkward for one-hand shooting, but we achieved our average .38-caliber scores at 50 yards offhand. We were particularly proud to make, with the least accuracy of all loads, an 84 offhand at 50 yards. This was the metal-piercing load. From rest we placed 4 x 5 of these metal piercers in the area of an average hand at 100 yards. This was from sitting position with both hands on the gun.

Probably we had expected too much punch out of this "wheelless cannon", because we were disillusioned and disappointed by the diminutive degree of power it manifested. This was particularly true of its failure to penetrate various materials, such as mild steel. We had a 3/16-inch steel

plate (14 x 18 inches) which the 45-grain Hornet bullet had deeply dented at 50 yards at about 2000 f.-s. remaining velocity. The high-velocity Hornet perforates it cleanly at this range. From the 8¾-inch barrel the .357 Magnum metal piercers made no impression on this plate at 50 yards or at shorter ranges, until we finally got as close as 15 yards. At that short range, factory loads from the revolver faintly dented the surface of the plate. Hornet bullets from a Sedgley-Colt S.A. revolver, at 1650 f.-s. m.v., would penetrate it at 20 yards.

This led us to believe that even the longest revolver was too short to develop the maximum potency of which the .357 Magnum load was capable. We wanted a longer barrel and decided on a rifle. We called in the services of Arthur Hubalek, the well-known barrel-maker, and gave him the Smith & Wesson specifications taken from our sample .357 Magnum revolver. We requested the same groove width and depth, the same 18.75-inch pitch of rifling and the S. & W. chamber dimensions for this cartridge. To duplicate the rather loose-fashioned breeching, typical of most revolvers, we chose the old Remington rolling-block action for our new rifle. In due time it came back, although Hubalek had to make up special rifling and chambering tools for this job.

The barrel was straight and heavy, over an inch thick at both ends, and 26 inches long. We fitted blocks for the Lyman 15X Super-Targetspot, whose axis came 1.563 inches above the bore. We sized our fired revolver cases full-length on the Bond Type-D Loading Press and reloaded them on that tool. We found the sizing operation a difficult one on account of excess friction, especially with plated cases. Finally we broke the top yoke of the press and had to replace it. Besides dry graphite, commonly used on cases, we tried other lubricants and found Anti-Rust Oil to be one of the best for mitigating excess friction in the sizing operation.

We were anxious to gauge the improvement in velocity from the 26-inch barrel, and lost little time in getting set up to try the same factory load on the same steel plate. Now the metal-piercer bullet from the rifle dented the plate more deeply at 100 yards than it had at 15 yards from the revolver, indicating a gain of at least 100 yards in

equivalent remaining velocity. At 50 yards we got complete perforation of the plate with the rifle using the Western metal-piercing load and Peters standard lead-bullet load in the .357 Magnum caliber. At 55 yards, both above loads and the Western Lubaloy-coated lead load penetrated the plate, but without complete perforation. Our subsequent handloads did this also.

Our first handloads, with the Bond-Ness .38 Special bullet, contained 9.0 grains No. 80 powder and 12.5 grains of Hercules 2400. These loads and the factory loads shot into 3¼ inches at 100 yards. The angle of elevation required for zero at that range was 6 minutes. We had some trouble with seating our handloads in the chamber, on account of poor breeching leverage, and finally reduced our bullets to .356 inch. This smaller bullet diameter also greatly reduced the bore-leading encountered in our initial experiments. The gravity drop from the bore line was 4.6 inches over 100 yards and the midrange trajectory height, 1.2 inches. Judging from this, we were getting at least 2000 f.-s. m.v., a gain over the revolver of about 100 f.-s. per each 3 inches of added barrel length.

We then boosted our load to 14.0 grains of 2400 powder and got 2-inch groups at 100 yards without leading. Only five of these were tried at 200 yards, and they made a 4-inch group. Western Lubaloy-coated ammunition did about as well. This represents the best accuracy obtained with this .357 Magnum rifle. The average accuracy would be nearer 3.0 inches at 100 yards and 6.5 inches at 200 yards. Probably on account of the heavy barrel, we had a very similar elevation with all loads.

We killed a couple of woodchucks with the outfit and then fitted a 355 Weaver scope in Albree Twinmounts, attached to the barrel. We also shortened the buttstock length, modified the excessive comb-drop with a Stam cheek rest, and cut the barrel to 18¼ inches. It now made a lighter and better-balanced rifle, as well as a handier one for hurried shots at vermin out of the car.

A recent test (on November 30) with the Western factory load put the first five shots in 1.57 inches at 100 yards. The final five (following fifty experimental loads) went into 2.20 inches and made the 10-shot group 2.82

(Continued on page 36)

With this type of action, cartridges must seat freely in the chamber



DATE YOUR CARTRIDGES

By VAN ALLEN LYMAN

WHEN YOU BUY a box of cartridges it's a simple matter to write the date on it, plainly and conspicuously, and so that it won't be rubbed off. For your own good, *do it*. You'd better add the word "bought" while you're at it. This applies to all of them, even to the .22's you think you're going to shoot up tomorrow. By so doing you may save yourself, or someone else, doubt or trouble later on.

Of course, the purchaser has no means at his disposal of determining the date of manufacture of the ammunition on the dealer's shelves, and it may have been there for years, but you do know at least that it was made prior to the date that you have written on it, and that's something to go by and some help anyway. The Army and Navy have all *their* cartridges dated with time of manufacture (for proof look at any box or bandolier of their cartridges), and theirs is a safe example to follow. Would that civilian cartridges were marked likewise!

Why? Well, cartridges may bear some resemblance to a piece of everlasting bronze statuary on the outside, but inside they are composed of chemicals which, though carefully chosen for their stability, nevertheless will *not* last forever. Cartridges in time are perishable, just as are soap, medicines, preserves, automobile tires, and—yes, even we ourselves. Under favorable storage conditions, of course, they *may* last a long time, some kinds much longer than others. They vary greatly. The writer has experimentally fired cartridges known to be 67 years old, a hazardous thing to do and *not* to be recommended. By way of contrast, he recently witnessed a very good pistol shot snap his single shot pistol 63 times to get 50 cartridges fired. Those cartridges were rather new—about 1½ years out of factory. The pistol itself was O.K., and despite the cartridges the shooter ended with a high score and got himself a gold medal in a State Championship match.

So don't harbor the idea that loaded cartridges are as lasting as stone arrowheads, and always good until shot. And if you think powder doesn't deteriorate, get in touch with technicians of the Ordnance Department. They can show you how samples of powder are constantly being taken from storage and tested for deterioration. The term they use is "stability." As powder changes in quality and strength the amount loaded behind the projectiles in big guns must be varied if the velocity is to be kept to the established point. After reaching a certain critical point of deterioration, the powder for big guns is withdrawn from service storage, and either destroyed or made into other chemicals, as Duco paints, for example, and similar products. Or it is sometimes remade into other powder.

Whether one realizes it or not, the same deterioration changes also occur in cartridges for rifles, pistols, and shot-guns used by civilian shooters. With this difference: that while the Ordnance Department continually tests its small arms ammunition, and condemns it if it falls below a certain standard, the private shooter has no technical laboratory to make regular tests and issue statements as to just what the situation is. Furthermore, small arms cartridges of any kind, metal or paper, are not perfectly climate proof and cannot be made so commercially, though

the makers do a mighty good job as it is. Under some climate conditions moisture and salt air can, and do, get into them.

For example, consider a temperature of, say, 86 degrees F. and a relative humidity of around 82. This would be pretty wet air, but is common enough in many parts of the world, and, especially in the tropics, might be even more so. In time, and under ordinary storage conditions, the air and humidity inside the cartridge will be the same as that outside, and the powder and primer will have had a chance to absorb some of the moisture from the air. Just as dry sawdust will soak up water, or blotting paper soak up ink.

Then, let the atmospheric temperature outside the cartridge drop somewhat. Condensation of the water in the moist air inside the cartridge occurs, and the more and quicker the temperature change the more the condensation. It may not be a complete condensation, but condensation to some extent does occur.

This, by the way, is simply "dew action"; i.e., warm air has a larger capacity for moisture than cooler air. If the temperature drops, the capacity of the air to hold moisture will be reduced, and some of it will be condensed on objects cooler than the air. It's the same thing that makes a glass of ice water "sweat," which clouds eyeglasses, and makes dew on the grass in the morning, if conditions are right. It can, and does, happen in a lesser form inside of a cartridge case, given proper conditions for its development.

Given a humid climate, sometimes salty air in addition, hot days and cooler nights, condensation and evaporation, alternately moisture being condensed and entering the chemicals of a cartridge, and then being evaporated out again, and it is really not surprising that the chemicals deteriorate in time. It is a great credit to the chemists who make them that they last as well as they do, and the wonder is that they do not deteriorate sooner.

Another thing: let outside atmospheric pressure increase, and the barometer rises, and more air with its moisture will enter the cartridge because the pressure outside is greater than the pressure inside. The added moisture goes right to the chemicals inside the shell, of course.

Such "sweating" and "pumping action" can go on indefinitely. It may not sound logical to many, who may find it hard to visualize moisture condensing on the inside of a cartridge during storage conditions, but nevertheless, tests have for years been carried on in the tropics just to find out and verify such things. Competent laboratory technicians can demonstrate such action. It's nothing new, and has been known a long time.

In many parts of the world where conditions are favorable, such troubles will be very slight or practically nonexistent. In such places people can shoot ammunition from 5 to 25 years old, possibly older, and get away with it. The cartridges, and their owners, are just lucky if they are in such a location. In other parts of the world it may be very different.

The remedy, of course, is to use powders and primers of a type which do not absorb moisture, or do not absorb it

to any great extent, or are not greatly affected by it. In other words, non-hygroscopic.

There are plenty of such powders, pretty much waterproof. Laflin & Rand, who brought out Infalible smokeless for shotguns, used to advertise that one could mix it in a jar with water, strain the water off, dry the powder with blotting paper, and then immediately load and shoot it, successfully. Probably one could. And with some other smokeless powders as well, but not all of them. Some cannon powder is waterproof this way, and a few pieces are mighty nice to have along on a trip to help start a fire when wood is wet. Better than a candle or old camera films.

One reason the British stuck to their "Cordite" for so many years, despite its erosive effects, is because of its stability under tropical service conditions.

But you can't soak up old-fashioned black powder in water as per L. & R. Infalible dense shotgun smokeless, dry it out, and have standard results. The nitre leaches out and the composition is changed. Kept dry, though, and under favorable storage conditions, black powder will retain its strength for a very long time. It will, however, frequently crumble or cake in old loaded cartridges, with consequent effects upon ballistic results.

Primers, too, suffer from climate, and more than the powder. The standard primer for years past has been a potassium chlorate type, dependable and good, destructive to the rifle barrel but capable of withstanding moisture rather successfully. In fact, the potassium chlorate primer is a mighty fine article in every way right now, except for the fact that it is hard on the barrel.

Then came the "non-corrosive" primers, with a flock of headaches for the ammunition people. They were non-corrosive all right, but in many cases non-shooting as well, especially in some parts of the world. They just went bad in one way or another. A number of formulas were tried out, with varying results; all this within the last few years. The non-corrosive mixture seems to have been found now which gives satisfactory results and stands up under unfavorable climatic conditions, which is what we want.

The U. S. Ordnance Department, being conservative and not taking any chances, is still sticking to the time tried and very dependable chlorate primer for its small arms ammunition. And soldiers and marines, you know, *clean* their guns. The Ordnance Department can't afford to take chances, and sticks to proven things until the new ideas have been thoroughly worked out.

Those of an inquiring turn of mind who take the trouble to open up .22 rim fire cartridges and investigate their insides may note that much of the modern non-corrosive priming is green in color. This green color has nothing to do with the stability of the priming: dyes are cheap and it could be made any color. Green is used merely because of its contrast, in color, to the metal shell, in this way aiding inspection of primed rim-fire shells. It isn't all green, either. The writer recently investigated non-corrosive primings on a recent Army contract, and found them brown in color. The way to see these primings easily is to use a flashlight, or better still, one of those doctors' head mirrors, in which you look through a hole in the mirror.

All the foregoing should make it clear that cartridges can, and do, deteriorate. In some parts of the world where conditions for keeping are favorable the deterioration may be very slow. In other places it may be much more rapid. The components of the cartridge to begin with also have something to do with it.

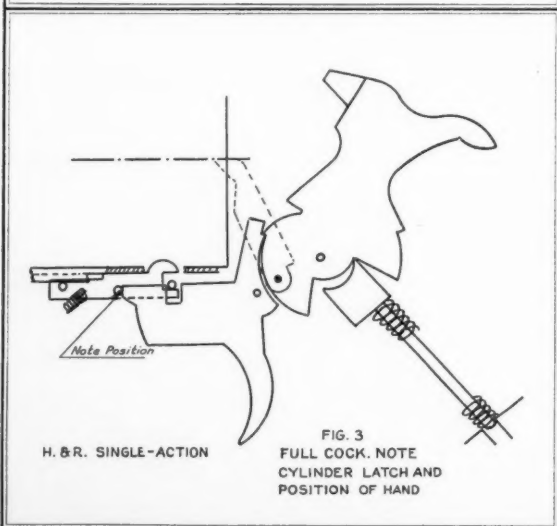
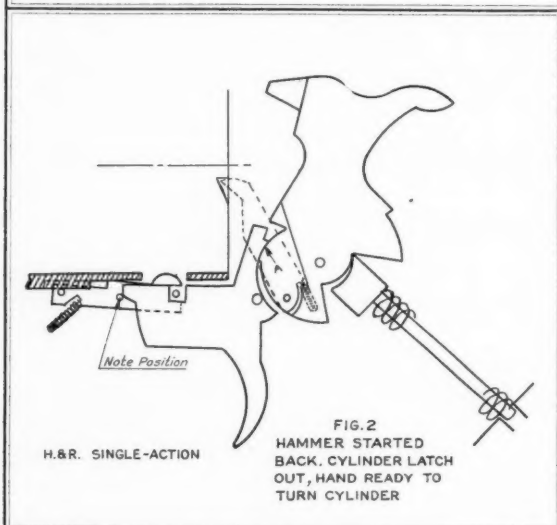
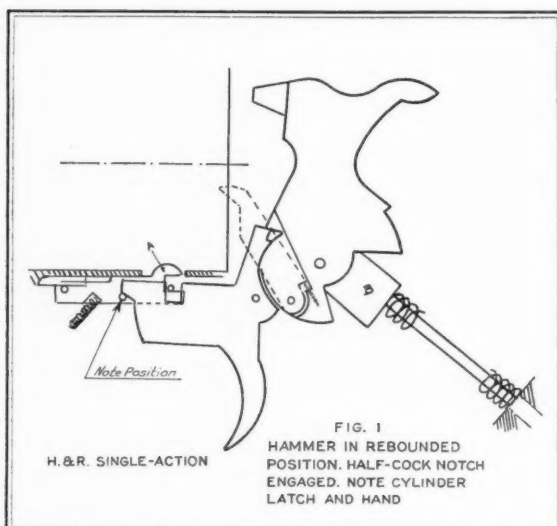
For your own good, therefore, the very best plan in any case is to see that your ammunition is as fresh as possible. If you are going on a hunting trip of importance, by all means take nothing but fresh ammunition, and make sure that it is fresh, even if you have to order special from the factory. And all of the same make, too. Give yourself every chance. Different makes may, and probably will, vary somewhat in ballistics. Therefore, don't mix them.

The place to use up old ammunition is on the target range, and not in serious competition, either. Or where a miss doesn't matter much, as on a bull-frog hunt.



REVOLVER MECHANISMS

By WALTER F. ROPER



Note: This article should interest every user of a revolver, for it is written by a man who not only has been a lover and shooter of handguns most of his life, but also possesses as fine a mechanical education as is to be had in this country, together with many years of experience in the design and manufacture of pistols and revolvers.—Editor.

NOT LONG AGO a handgun shooter brought his favorite S. & W. K Model .38 to me and remarked that he'd just had some more hard luck. He went on to describe the hours of "stonning" he'd put in on the gun "to make it as smooth as glass," and explained in detail how he had honed every part of the action—only, as he put it, to have the darn thing "tie up" when he tried to shoot it.

Examination of the gun revealed that the cylinder latch was not remaining in its "out" position long enough to permit the cylinder to rotate sufficiently to prevent the latch from re-engaging the same notch in the cylinder. Pressed for information, the man admitted rounding as well as smoothing the forward extension of the trigger "quite a little" to make it work the latch with the least possible friction. To put that gun back into working condition my friend had to have practically every part of the action replaced; which, plus the cost of the labor, made the price of his experimental gunsmithing rather high.

Hundreds of guns are returned to the factories every year to be fixed up after work like that just described. The "outside repair" departments of these concerns are always weeks behind in their work, and shooters have to do without their favorite guns in matches they might have won—all because of work they have done with the best of intentions, but on mechanisms with which they were not sufficiently familiar.

The fact is, a revolver is a mighty tricky piece of mechanism to adjust so that it will work smoothly; most decidedly it is not something to be tackled without knowing how it works, how each part of the mechanism must operate in relation to the others, and just what the limitations are in each. My recommendation is to let the factory that built the gun do the adjusting, or at least have a really experienced gunsmith who is familiar with that particular gun, do the work.

Let's take a look at the various mechanisms in the different makes of modern revolvers, and see just how they work and how each must be "timed" in relation to the others; not with the idea of enabling anyone to become an expert gunsmith, but rather to show why such work had best be left to an experienced expert.

It has always seemed to me that the revolver could have been given a much more descriptive name; in fact "ratchet-gun" would be most appropriate, for the "works" of a modern revolver consist of five separate ratchet-and-pawl mechanisms—and nothing much else. And the way a revolver stands up under use, misuse, and punishment is about the finest possible recommendation for the ratchet-and-pawl mechanism as a mechanical motion that can "take it."

Just one more word before we take up the different mechanisms: This article is to be wholly descriptive. Whether or not one design is better than another is not the question; nor shall we concern ourselves with such matters as the direction of rotation of the cylinder, one versus two supporting bearings for the cylinder, etc. Our subject is the

mechanisms—how they operate and how they are “timed” to each other.

There are two general classes of revolvers: first, those in which the hammer must be cocked with the thumb for each shot; and second, those which can be cocked and fired by simply pulling the trigger. The first type is called “single-action”, the second “double-action”. Of course the most famous of all single-action guns is the old Colt Frontier Model, but it’s hardly to be considered a modern revolver, and anyway most every hand-gun shooter is familiar with its mechanism, so it will not be considered here. The only other single-action gun in use today is the Harrington & Richardson single-action Sportsman, or their more recent Ultra Sportsman. The double-action guns are the Colt and Smith & Wesson; and I propose to describe and illustrate the mechanisms of these three modern revolvers.

In a single-action revolver the following is the sequence of operations of the different mechanisms: The first motion of the hammer as it is pulled toward the full-cocked position causes the cylinder latch to move out of engagement with a notch in the circumference of the cylinder. This latch then remains in this out position until the cylinder has been rotated at least far enough to prevent re-engagement in the same cylinder notch. Still further motion of the hammer causes the pawl attached to the hammer to engage a tooth on the cylinder ratchet, to rotate the cylinder and bring another chamber into alignment with the barrel. During the rotation of the cylinder and before the next chamber lines up with the barrel, the cylinder latch is released and allowed to ride on the surface of the cylinder ready to snap into the next notch when the cylinder has been turned sufficiently to make the next chamber line up with the barrel. As engagement of the cylinder latch prevents further rotation of the cylinder, and because the cylinder should be locked in firing position before the full-cocked position of the hammer is reached, the hammer, and therefore the cylinder-operating pawl, must move a slight amount after the cylinder is locked. Therefore this pawl, and the ratchet on which it works, are so shaped that the pawl is allowed to slide past the outer end of the ratchet tooth upon which it was working. When the full-cock position of the hammer is reached, the upper end of the trigger drops into a notch in the hammer, and holds it ready for firing. This trigger-point and hammer-notch are therefore just another of the many ratchet-and-pawl mechanisms found in a modern revolver. Pressing back on the trigger releases the hammer and allows it to swing forward and strike the primer, and removal of the finger pressure from the trigger allows the trigger to snap forward under action of the trigger spring, and this resets the cylinder latch ready to engage another notch in the cylinder when the hammer is cocked again.

All of the revolvers to be described have a hammer, trigger, cylinder, cylinder-operating pawl which we will call a “hand”, a cylinder latch, and a main spring. Colt and Smith & Wesson guns have, in addition, parts to cause a block of steel to be interposed between the hammer and the frame, when the hammer is in the rebounded or safety position. In addition there are several small springs, screws, and pins. To make the particular mechanism under consideration easier to understand, I have in the drawings left out such parts as are not of importance to that particular study, and which would only complicate matters. Furthermore, I have taken some license, and probably an expert draftsman will find certain details of execution incorrect. However, these drawings will clearly show how each mechanism operates, and I hope will help many shooters to understand just how their favorite gun works.

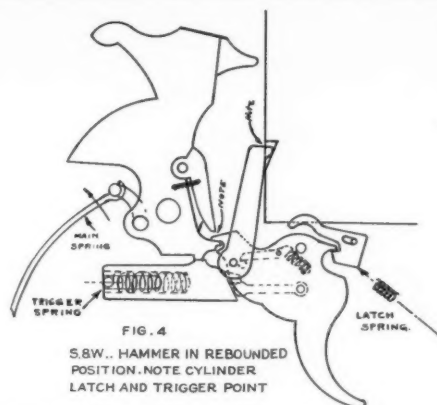


FIG. 4
S&W. HAMMER IN REBOUNDED POSITION. NOTE CYLINDER LATCH AND TRIGGER POINT

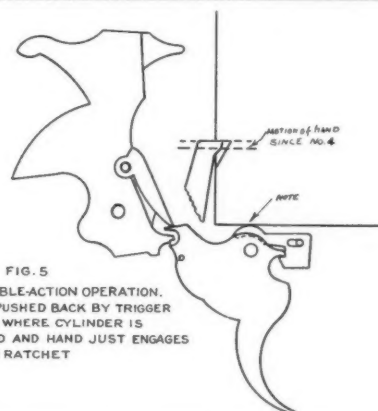


FIG. 5
S&W. DOUBLE-ACTION OPERATION. HAMMER PUSHED BACK BY TRIGGER TO POINT WHERE CYLINDER IS UNLOCKED AND HAND JUST ENGAGES TOOTH ON RATCHET

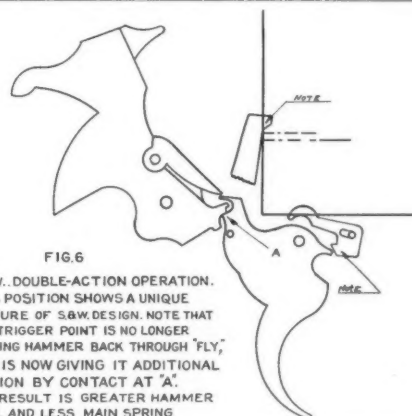


FIG. 6
S&W. DOUBLE-ACTION OPERATION. THIS POSITION SHOWS A UNIQUE FEATURE OF S&W DESIGN. NOTE THAT THE TRIGGER POINT IS NO LONGER PUSHING HAMMER BACK THROUGH "FLY", BUT IS NOW GIVING IT ADDITIONAL MOTION BY CONTACT AT "A". THE RESULT IS GREATER HAMMER FALL AND LESS MAIN SPRING

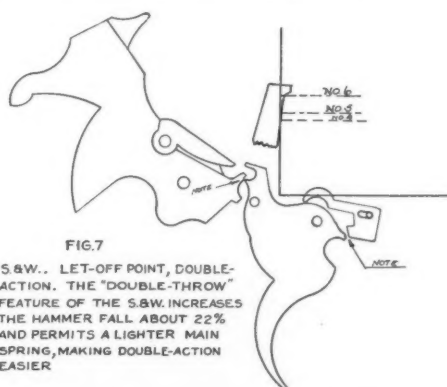


FIG. 7
S&W. LET-OFF POINT, DOUBLE-ACTION. THE "DOUBLE-THROW" FEATURE OF THE S&W INCREASES THE HAMMER FALL ABOUT 22% AND PERMITS A LIGHTER MAIN SPRING, MAKING DOUBLE-ACTION EASIER

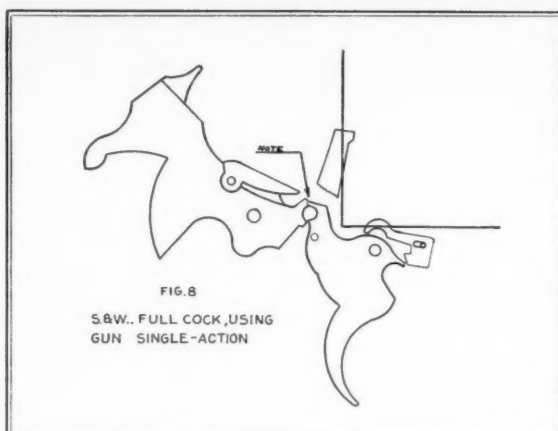


FIG. 8
S&W. FULL COCK, USING
GUN SINGLE-ACTION

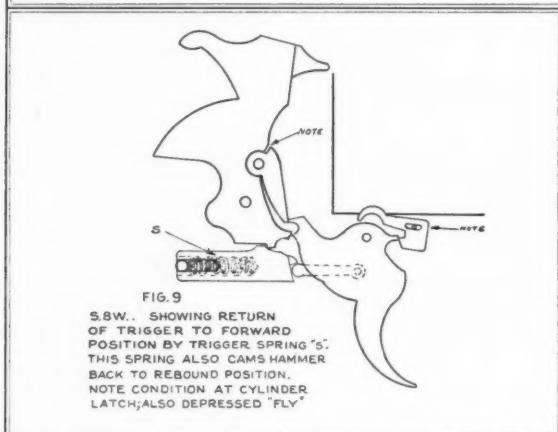


FIG. 9
S&W. SHOWING RETURN
OF TRIGGER TO FORWARD
POSITION BY TRIGGER SPRING 'S'.
THIS SPRING ALSO CAMS HAMMER
BACK TO REBOUND POSITION.
NOTE CONDITION AT CYLINDER
LATCH; ALSO DEPRESSED 'FLY'

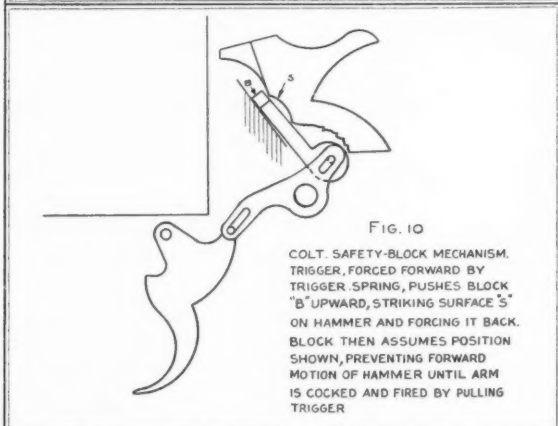


FIG. 10
COLT. SAFETY-BLOCK MECHANISM.
TRIGGER, FORCED FORWARD BY
TRIGGER SPRING, PUSHES BLOCK
'B' UPWARD, STRIKING SURFACE 'S'
ON HAMMER AND FORCING IT BACK.
BLOCK THEN ASSUMES POSITION
SHOWN, PREVENTING FORWARD
MOTION OF HAMMER UNTIL ARM
IS COCKED AND FIRED BY PULLING
TRIGGER

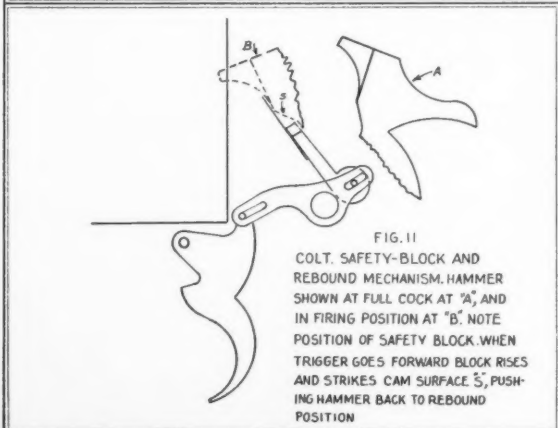


FIG. 11
COLT. SAFETY-BLOCK AND
REBOUND MECHANISM. HAMMER
SHOWN AT FULL COCK AT 'A', AND
IN FIRING POSITION AT 'B'. NOTE
POSITION OF SAFETY BLOCK WHEN
TRIGGER GOES FORWARD BLOCK RISES
AND STRIKES CAM SURFACE 'S', PUSH-
ING HAMMER BACK TO REBOUND
POSITION

The first gun to be considered is the Harrington & Richardson single-action, and Figure 1 shows the hammer, trigger, cylinder latch, hand, and main spring in the positions they occupy when the gun is in its safety or rebounded condition. Note that the cylinder latch "A" is raised and would engage a notch in the cylinder; that the hammer engages the top of the trigger in the half-cocked notch, and that both points of the main-spring rod end "B" engage the hammer, keeping it in this re-bounded position. Note also the pin on the cylinder latch in engagement with the cam surface on the front end of the trigger.

Now refer to Figure 2. The hammer has here been started backward, and by the cam surface "A" the upper part of the trigger is being pushed forward, which means that its front end will move downward. This motion has pulled the cylinder latch downward out of engagement with the notch in the cylinder. Note the position of the pin in the cylinder latch in relation to the cam on the front end of the trigger; also notice that the hand has just engaged a notch in the cylinder ratchet. From this drawing it is evident that the cam "A" and the shape of the trigger that bears against this surface determine both the amount of motion and motion at the right time to operate the cylinder latch correctly—and here is the first point to be remembered by anyone attempting to stone one of these guns, as any change in the cam "A" will affect the timing of the latch and probably throw it out of "kilter". Also, any stoning on the cam on the front end of the trigger will very likely make the gun tie up. Please note that the cylinder latch moves forward as well as downward, due to the cam on the trigger-point.

Now consider Figure 3, showing the hammer in full-cock position. The pin on the cylinder latch has reached the "dwell" on the front end of the trigger so that it remains in engagement with the cylinder notch. If the trigger is now pulled to fire the gun, the hammer will be forced forward by the mainspring; but this motion of the trigger will not affect the position of the cylinder latch, due to the dwell on the cam on the front of the trigger. The hammer swings forward and strikes the primer; and then, because the lower point of the main-spring rod end strikes the lower corner of the cut in the back of the hammer, the mainspring is forced backward, and in order to reach a state of equilibrium, the hammer rebounds until both points of the spring block reach the corners of the hammer cut. Releasing the pressure on the trigger causes the latch to follow the cam on the front of the trigger, and makes it reassume the position shown in Figure 1; without, however, losing contact with the notch in the cylinder. The parts are then in the position shown in Figure 1, and the cycle of operations has been completed. This Harrington & Richardson action is, of course, the very acme of simplicity, but as you study the drawings of the Smith & Wesson mechanism to follow, you will notice a fundamental similarity in both the arrangement and the operation. For simplicity's sake the trigger spring is not shown in these drawings of the Harrington & Richardson. It simply presses against the rear surface of the trigger, tending to keep it forward at all times.

Let us now look at the Smith & Wesson, one of the two modern double-action revolvers. In Figure 4 you will easily see the hammer, trigger, cylinder latch, hand, and main and trigger springs; but here we have an additional part—the swinging "fly" on the front of the hammer. This is typical of the well-designed double-action revolver. Note in Figure 4 the forward extension on the trigger

bearing in the notch of the cylinder latch, which is forced backward and upward by the latch spring indicated. Note that the back upper point of the trigger is resting on a surface of the hammer above the full-cock single-action notch, but under the "fly". The trigger spring forces the trigger forward through the rebound block shown and the link that is pivoted inside the trigger. The hand is pivoted to the trigger in a double-action revolver, and in this case, as shown, it is kept in its forward position by the small lever riding inside the trigger, actuated by the spring indicated. A slight backward motion on the trigger moves the parts from the position shown in Figure 4 to that shown in Figure 5. Here for simplicity's sake I have eliminated parts not necessary to an understanding of the action. Note that the forward extension of the trigger has depressed the cylinder latch, and that the back point of the trigger is in contact with the "fly" on the hammer; also that the same motion has raised the hand until it now engages a notch in the cylinder ratchet. Continued motion of the trigger forces the hammer still further backward, and presses the cylinder latch forward until the trigger-point snaps past the edge of the notch, allowing the latch to spring up and ride on the surface of the cylinder ready to engage the next notch when the cylinder is rotated sufficiently to line the next chamber up with the barrel.

Figure 6 shows one of the peculiarities of the Smith & Wesson action, for in this gun the hammer is forced farther back than would be the case if the action were wholly dependent upon contact between the "fly" and the top back point of the trigger. Note that these parts are no longer in contact, and if it were not for the surfaces indicated at "A", the hammer would have fallen. In the Smith & Wesson action, an extra throw is given to the hammer by means of this second contact indicated at point "A". Note that the front of the trigger has lost contact with the cylinder latch, which is now riding on the surface of the cylinder.

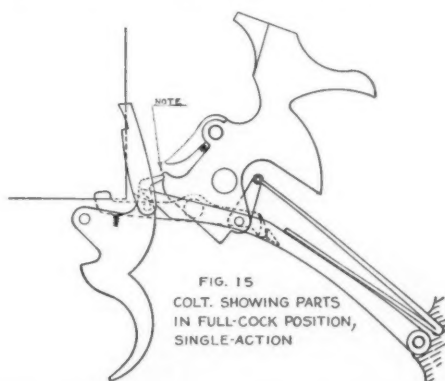
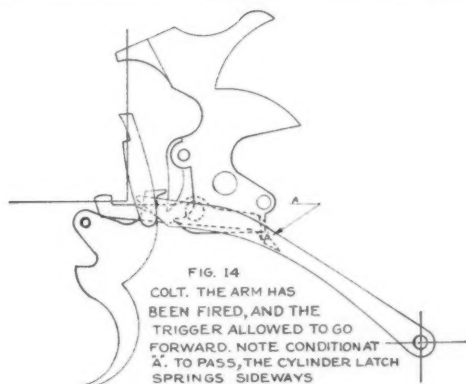
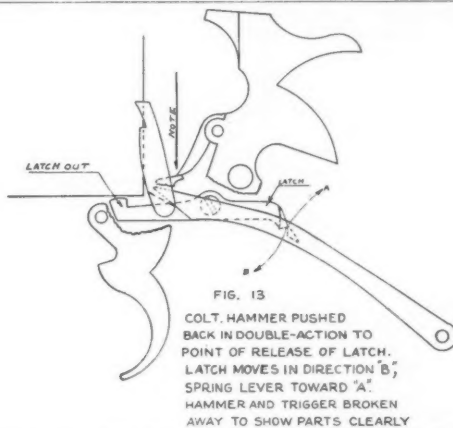
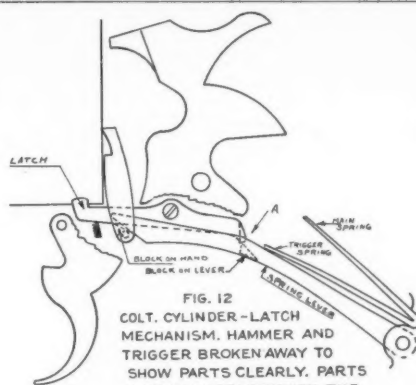
Figure 7 shows the actual let-off point in this Smith & Wesson double-throw action. Note how much farther the hammer has been pushed back than would have been possible if this motion came only from contact between the "fly" and the trigger-point. The hand is now in its most upward position, the cylinder latch is engaged in a notch in the cylinder, and the arm is ready for firing. A slight further motion of the trigger will allow the hammer to fall, and a release of the pressure on the trigger will cause it to swing forward, resetting the cylinder latch. The parts will then assume the position shown in Figure 4.

Figure 8 shows the Smith & Wesson action at full-cock position when using the gun single-action. Note that a different let-off notch in the hammer is employed when the gun is operated in this manner, but that due to the double throw of the double-action of this gun, the total throw of the hammer in double-action is very nearly that obtained in single-action shooting.

Figure 9 shows the operation of the parts of the Smith & Wesson when the trigger swings forward after shooting. Note that the upper back end of the trigger is assuming its original position by springing the "fly" backward. Also note how the front extension of the trigger forces the cylinder latch forward against its spring by pressing on the angle surface of the latch. A little more motion of the trigger, and the parts will again be in the position shown in Figure 4, and the cycle of operations will have been completed.

The rebounding of the hammer in the Smith & Wesson action is caused by the trigger spring "S" operating the block in which it works, which presses against the small extension at the very bottom point of the hammer. This

(Continued on page 36)





A recent picture of the Author with a Model 71 Winchester lever-action rifle

LEVER-ACTION RIFLES

By COL. TOWNSEND WHELEN

PART II—AMMUNITION

IN DESCRIBING the results obtained with various cartridges in lever-action rifles I think I had better start with the older black powder cartridges. Rifles for these are no longer made, but the cartridges, usually loaded with low pressure smokeless powder, can still be obtained. Lots of oldtimers are still using rifles for these black powder cartridges and, of course, are getting the same good results with them that they obtained fifty years ago, for black powder rifles never wear out.

Also in considering these cartridges we must differentiate between freshly hand loaded cartridges and factory loads, particularly factory loads that had been on the dealers' shelves for some years. In black powder days riflemen could and did measure the exact groove diameter of their barrel, and cast, freshly lubricate, and size their bullets to that diameter. Then they loaded the powder without undue compression, often placing a charge of 3 to 5 grains of low pressure smokeless powder in the base of the case to help ignition and make the black powder burn cleaner. The case was sized at its neck to the exact diam-

eter of the bullet, which was very lightly crimped or not crimped at all. Such fresh ammunition shot very much better than the usual factory ammunition, and also fouled much less, so that it was often possible to fire ten consecutive shots or more with good accuracy and without cleaning the bore.

Freshly-loaded factory ammunition shot very well, but it was hard to get it. Factories loaded their yearly stock at one time, and that which we bought in stores was liable to be a year or more old. Usually the powder fouling caked badly, except in very damp weather. Five-shot groups were very satisfactory, ten-shot groups liable to be large. But this did not figure in much in hunting as one never fired more than five shots without an opportunity to clean the bore.

One of the cartridges with which a great many rounds could be fired with accurate results and without cleaning was the .32-20-115, a load designed for small game and short range target practice. It was really too light for deer, although my scrap books show innumeral cases where deer

were killed with it. Up to 100 yards it was easily the most accurate black powder cartridge used in lever-action rifles. With hand loaded ammunition there are many records of fine shooting being done with it at 200 yards, but the trajectory was too curved for successful use in hunting beyond about 100 yards. The late William Lyman used to target all the rifles he fitted with his sights, and on August 17, 1893, he wrote: "In the matter of cartridges I am glad to see that sportsmen are appreciating the advantages of shooting a light charge rather than the heavy charges which so many advocated two or three years ago. For large game, of course, a .32-20 W.C.F. is rather small, but it comes nearer to being an all-around cartridge, in my opinion, than any other. Up to 200 yards some of the best shooting I have ever done was with this cartridge. The other morning I took five of these cartridges to my testing box to try a 1892 Model Winchester that my man had just sighted, and the five shots would all hit a ten cent piece at 50 yards. An advantage of this light charge is that one can shoot accurately 50 to 100 shots without cleaning, which cannot be done with a heavy charge."

The introduction of the .25-20 repeater cartridge about sounded the death knell of the .32-20 because the former was more accurate, had a flatter trajectory, and was a little better killer on small game. Modern loadings of the .32-20 with smokeless powder and jacketed bullets give very good results—about 2¼- to 2¾-inch groups at 100 yards, and the trajectory of the high speed cartridges are very flat over 150 yards.

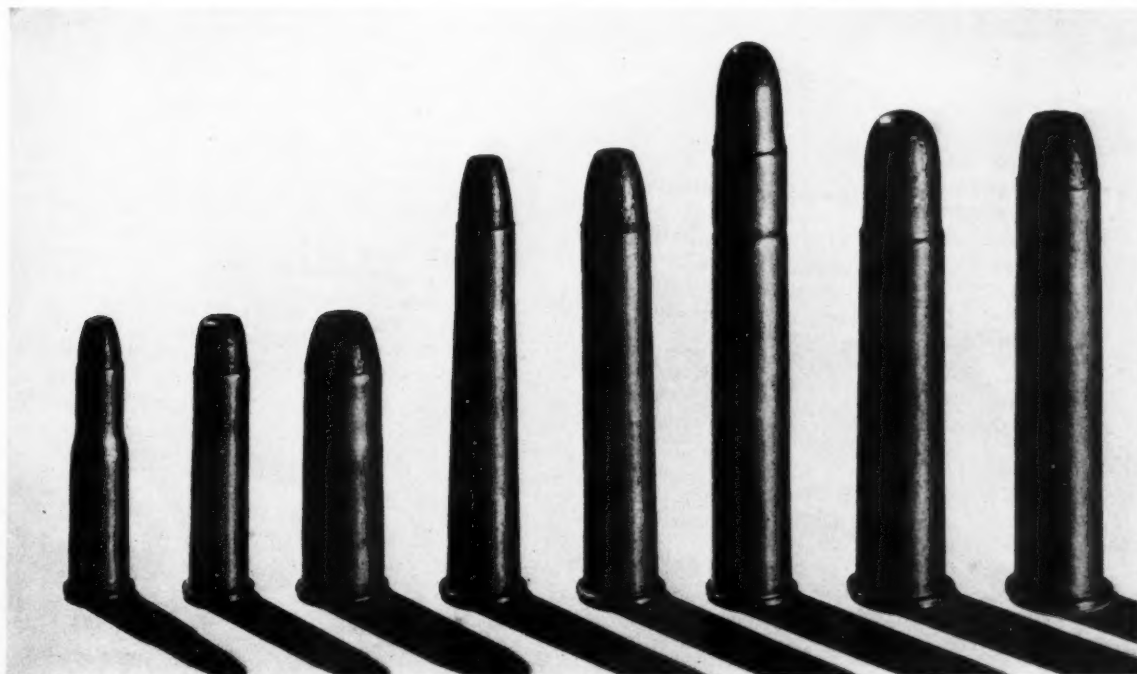
I personally consider the .32-40 cartridge as the most accurate of all cartridges used in lever-action rifles, except possibly the .25-20 low pressure smokeless cartridge. This is not strictly true of the old black powder cartridge, but the modern low pressure, regular velocity .32-40 smokeless cartridge, loaded with 165-grain soft point bullet shoots like nobody's business. It is still a very popular cartridge in certain localities, particularly in the Green Mountains in Vermont, and it certainly does fine work on deer. In 1892

there was a very extended and hot argument in the columns of the old *American Field* as to whether the .32-40 or the .45-90 was the better deer cartridge, and certainly there was enough evidence introduced to prove beyond doubt that the .32-40 was a most successful deer load.

During the latter part of the last century the .38-55 cartridge was easily our most popular deer load, and particularly in Maine where at that time they knew more about deer hunting than anywhere else in America. The Maine guides swore by it. It was popular in the Adirondacks as well, and I remember that in 1892 a guide at Long Lake, New York, had a Marlin repeater with 28-inch barrel for this cartridge, and all the guides round about conceded that this was the best deer rifle they had seen. It is funny about such reputations, though. The groove diameter of almost all of these old .38-55 rifles ran about .381 inch, while the factory bullets measured .375 inch. The combination did not give very good accuracy, but when hand loaders sized their bullets to .381 inch, and crimped their cartridges lightly, they got fine results. In 1900 when I went to British Columbia I gave old Bill Andrews, who was my hunting partner for nine months, a .38-55 Winchester Model 1894 rifle with Lyman sights, and he used it with the finest kind of results. I personally saw him kill over 30 mule deer with it, and a second shot was hardly ever necessary. And the last I heard from him he was still using that rifle up in Northwest Territories for caribou and moose. There was one advantage that the .38 and larger caliber rifles possessed that no smaller calibers give. The entrance hole of the bullet almost always let out enough blood to give a good blood trail for tracking a wounded animal.

The .44-40 was the first center fire cartridge adapted to repeating rifles. More deer have probably been killed with it than with any other cartridge except the .30-30. It is a first-rate 100-yard deer cartridge, but that is about its limit. It also gives a good blood trail. It has always been the standard caliber in tropical Central and South America where large numbers of lever-action rifles for it have been

The principal black-power, lever-action cartridges. Left to right: .25-20-86 Repeater; .32-20-115 W. C. F.; .44-40 W. C. F.; .32-40-165; .38-55-255; .40-72-330 W. C. F.; .45-70-500 U. S. Govt.; .45-90-300 W. C. F.





RICHMOND HILL RIFLE CLUB TEAM
Richard Strebel—Chas. Jordan—Herb Steinberger—Al Crowley



RECK and

SUPER-MATCH All the Way And a New World Record

From start to finish at the Fourth Annual Indoor Niagara Frontier Small Bore Rifle Matches at Buffalo, N. Y. January 21-22, it was SUPER-MATCH all the way!

Western SUPER-MATCH took top honors in every one of the twelve 100-yard matches, except one, and in that event four of the first six used it. The five high men in the 'scope Aggregate shot SUPER-MATCH—also the first three in the iron sight Aggregate!

The headliners of this big tournament were the Irvine Rod & Gun Club Team from Warren, Pa., and Larry A. Wilkens of Independence, O. The Irvine team set a World Record of 999—68-X in winning the Any Sights, 5-Man Team Match! Three team members shot SUPER-MATCH. Two shot Winchester EZX'S. The sensational 200—12-X possible of Mrs. R. J. Lacy, fired under tremendous pressure, gave the Irvine team the victory, nosing out the McKean County No. 2 Team of Bradford, Pa., which also had scored a World Record 999—61-X with SUPER-MATCH less than an hour before. Nine of the ten members of the two teams shot Winchester Model 52's.

Larry A. Wilkens, former International Team member, showed how he has come up in a single year after being out of competition for some time. He won the Wm. J. Wark Memorial Aggregate, 'scope sights, score: 800—63-X,—the Indoor Championship, iron sights, score: 400—23-X,—the Indoor Championship, 'scope sights, score: 400—34-X,—

and the Expert Target, Any Sights Match, score: 198. Wilkens had 120 consecutive record shots either in the 10-ring or the X-ring for a phenomenal total of 1200—86-X, with SUPER-MATCH!

He demonstrated his ability to hold at all positions by winning four of the six events with SUPER-MATCH at the Anthony Wayne 50-foot Indoor Matches at Toledo, O. a week earlier. He captured the Commodore Perry Hotel Aggregate, score: 670,—the Fort Meigs Hotel Cup, iron sights, score: 200 x 200, prone, —the Kay Jewelry Cup, any sights, score: 181, standing,—and the Schuetzen Off-Hand Match, Free Rifle, score: 492. Wilkens shoots a Winchester 52.

John R. Wark of Buffalo, N. Y., who set the record of 500—38-X for 100 yards indoors with IRON sights at the Niagara Frontier matches last year shooting SUPER-MATCH, captured the Iron Sight Aggregate this year at Buffalo with SUPER-MATCH. Score: 794—51-X. Wark also was high man on the Buffalo team which won the Toronto vs. Buffalo 5-Man Team Match. Score: 986—45-X. All team members shot SUPER-MATCH in Winchester 52's.

Mrs. Melba Berry of Kenmore, N. Y., winner of the 'scope sight Aggregate and the Ladies Match last year, shooting SUPER-MATCH, won the Iron Sight Match this year with a fine 200 x 200 possible, 12-X's, and again won the Ladies Match, score: 199—13-X, shooting SUPER-MATCH in a Winchester 52.

R. A. Reck and C. A. Nicklas of Bradford, Pa., members of the McKean County Team, triumphed in the Doubles Scope Team Match, score: 400—30-X. Both shot SUPER-MATCH in Winchester 52's.

F. R. Naish of Niagara Falls, N. Y. and F. Schilling of Lockport, N. Y. won the Doubles Iron Sight Team

Match, score: 400—30-X. Both shot SUPER-MATCH in Winchester 52's.

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REIK and NICKLAS

Way at Buffalo Record 999!

Match, score: 398—21-X. The former shot SUPER-MATCH. Both used Winchester Model 52's.

Xpert

SET THE PACE IN MIDDLE ATLANTIC MATCHES!

Riflemen are marvelling at the accuracy of Western XPERT cartridges. At the Middle Atlantic Championship Indoor Matches, Newark, N. J., January 20-22, the Richmond Hill Rifle Club Team, Long Island, N. Y., defeated 36 teams in winning the 75-foot, three-position, 4-Man Team Championship. Score: 1117. Two team members shot XPERT. Two used SUPER-MATCH. All used Winchester 52's.

Al Crowley, St. Albans, L. I., member of the Richmond Hill team, topped the field of 91 riflemen in winning the 75-foot, three-position individual, with XPERT. Score: 284. John Davidson placed second shooting XPERT, with a 283. B. A. Renois was third shooting SUPER-MATCH, with 282. All used Winchester Model 52's.

Again this year the winners at a majority of the important matches are shooting SUPER-MATCH or XPERT smokeless ammunition. Either cartridge will make it easier for you to take home the trophies.

WESTERN CARTRIDGE COMPANY
Dept. C-251, East Alton, Illinois



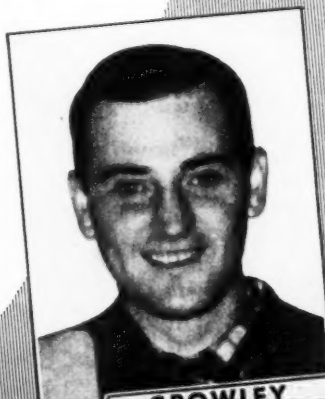
WARK



WILKENS



IRVINE ROD & GUN CLUB TEAM
Left to right, front row: J. A. Schultz, Mrs. R. J. Lacy, Warren Childs.
Back row: Sheridan Brown, Richard J. Lacy



CROWLEY



NAISH



MRS. BERRY

sold. I never personally could see any reason for its companion cartridge, the .38-40. The two were so nearly alike that there was need for only one. The bullets are only 20 grains difference in weight, and .028 inch in diameter. Neither is what it is called, the .44-40 being a .428 caliber, and the .38-40 a .400 caliber.

The Winchester Model 1886 rifle was made for a long series of black powder cartridges: .38-56-255, .38-70-255, .40-65-260, .40-70-330, .40-82-260, .45-70, .45-90-500, and .50-110. It was generally considered that the .38 calibers were good for deer, and the .40 calibers possibly for elk, moose, and grizzly bear as well. But for the latter animals the .45 calibers were usually preferred. The .45-90 was always much advertised because of its talking point of slightly flatter trajectory, but most of the old Westerners preferred the .45-70 because it was the more accurate and Government ammunition could be obtained. Particularly the .45-70 with the 500-grain bullet killed all species of American game splendidly, animals went down as though poleaxed, and it was just as good for a raking shot in the hind quarters on elk or moose as behind the shoulder. As to the killing power of these .45 caliber Winchesters just listen to this: "As to the Winchester .45-90, I have with this weapon killed four rhinoceros, two with a single shot at 100 yards, and two while charging—one with four, and one with five shots. I have known a rhino taking nine hardened .577 bullets and getting away. With the Winchester I have killed eight giraffe, shooting all but one of them in the neck, with a single shot at distances varying from 150 to 200 yards. I have with the same weapon killed many zebra, oryx beisa, eland, and other antelopes at distances varying from 100 to 500 yards. . . . In the case which occurred the rhino, after smashing several boxes, dashed after another man and was only prevented from killing him by a lucky Winchester shot which broke his shoulder."—William Astor Chandler in the *New York Sun*, December 19, 1893.

The .50-100-450 was a brute of a cartridge, brought out for buffalo after the buffalo had all been killed off. I said above that black powder rifles never wore out—given proper care, of course. This was not strictly true of lever action rifles using these heavily charged .45 and .50 caliber cartridges. The charges were very heavy, and the heads of the cartridge cases were large, resulting in heavy back thrust on the breech block. Eventually, after many thousands of rounds, the breech block would be permanently set back, resulting in excess headspace, and cartridge cases would begin to split in two in front of the head. But the rifle could then be sent to the factory to be breeched up tight again, when it was as good as new. The same thing exactly occurs today with all heavily-charged lever-action rifles shooting smokeless cartridges.

Towards the end of the black powder period sportsmen began a more intensive study of the rifle, and numerous technical discussions appeared in the sporting press. Almost all students arrived at about the same idea as to the ideal cartridge, and the following is a fair example of the trend of thought in those days: "Give me a Winchester Single Shot, 28-inch octagon barrel of 8 pounds weight, plain open front sight and Lyman rear sight, chambered for a straight shell, .38-70-280, and I would not ask for a better rifle for hunting deer. A pistol grip would add to its convenience in handling." Forty years ago Mr. A. G. Wallihan was one of our most prominent Western sportsmen, and one of the pioneer big game photographers. For years he used a Winchester Model 1886 for the .40-70-330 cartridge, and with such wonderful results that he gave much publicity to it. The last black powder lever-action rifle to be produced was the Winchester Model 1895, and its makers had evi-

dently taken these discussions on the ideal cartridge to heart for they brought it out for two new black powder cartridges, the .38-72-275, and the .40-72-330 which they said they regarded as the highest development in game cartridges. And they were both fine, only they had no chance because the smokeless high power cartridges which came out a year later drove all the black powder cartridges to the wall almost at once.

I had a .40-72 Winchester Model 1895 (and still have it) and it was a splendid rifle. I used it some in British Columbia in 1900, and some in California in 1903, and killed a number of deer with it, and they all went down like lightning when struck, but at that time I really preferred my .30-30 on account of its greater handiness. I had this .40-72 made with a 30-inch No. 3 barrel, and it weighed about 12 pounds—too heavy for a mountain rifle. But how it would shoot! With a 330-grain bullet, cast 1 to 16, sized to .406 inch, and lubricated with Leopolds (Ideal) lubricant, powder charge 5 grains of duPont No. 1, smokeless for priming, and 67 grains of Hazards FG black powder, bullet not crimped, I got many groups running from 2 to 2½ inches at 100 yards.

This Magazine has had a long and distinguished career, always in the interests of the rifleman. First it was called "The Rifle," and afterwards "Shooting & Fishing." Then its name was changed to "Arms and the Man," and finally to THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. While it was "The Rifle" and "Shooting & Fishing" it was edited by Mr. A. C. Gould. Mr. Gould probably knew more about rifles than any man of his day, and in 1892 he published a book called "Modern American Rifles," which was the standard book on its subject for many years. But just to show the lack of knowledge, or the simplicity of the art 50 years ago, the words "velocity" and "trajectory" do not occur in this book. Rifle shooters knew next to nothing about trajectory in those days, but they did know that the bullet fell, and the experienced ones soon found that their black powder rifles were not sure hitters on big game beyond about 150 yards because of the fast drop of the bullet beyond that distance. Sight a black powder rifle to strike the point of aim at 100 yards, and the bullet will fly about 2½ to 3 inches above the line of aim at 50 yards, and drop about 20 to 25 inches low at 200 yards. Obviously no one could estimate ranges close enough out around 200 yards to allow for such a great bullet drop, although a heavy bullet would kill at that distance if it did luckily hit.

This matter of trajectory was the chief cause for such a rapid change from the black powder cartridges to the high pressure smokeless loads when the latter were introduced. The first rifle to be adapted to these loads was the Winchester single shot for the .30-40 Krag cartridge, and incidentally this particular rifle was easily the most accurate American commercial hunting rifle from the time of its introduction, April 16, 1894, until after the World War. The .30-40 Krag cartridge is well known to my readers, but a few items about it may be of interest. About 1906 the magazine *Outdoor Life* circularized its subscribers to find out which was the most popular game rifle. It proved to be the .30-40 Winchester Model 1895, but, of course, this pertained really to the West because *Outdoor Life* was almost entirely a Western magazine in those days. This .30-40 was then (before the introduction of the .30-'06) easily the most used rifle in Alaska where the .30-30 was definitely not powerful enough. However, this popularity is rather peculiar because Alaska is largely an open country calling for long shots and fine accuracy, and while the .30-40 cartridge was highly accurate in the Krag rifle it was not in the Model 1895. There was something peculiar about the Model 1895, probably its vibrations, which made

(Continued on page 37)

COMBINATION LOADS

A DOPE BAG REVIEW

AS WAS INTIMATED in the January Dope Bag, these duplex loads about which we are, and have been, writing are not to be confused with the "O.K.H. Duplex Loads", about which we know very little. Method of loading, nature of components and other details of these latter loads are probably known only to O'Neil, Keith and Hopkins. However, we have had many requests for some definite details of successful duplex loads, and in compliance we are quoting from the interesting experiences of Ralph H. Pike, as was promised last month.

Mr. Pike has taken time out, from making his excellent self-setting trigger for bolt-actions, to develop some concrete results with duplex and triplex loads of rifle powders and with other various different multiple combinations of modern propellants. He has greatly increased the penetrative power and, paradoxically, has appreciably reduced the pressure of his handloads thereby. He said it was practically impossible to "heat up the barrel" with these powerful loads, and that they gave very little muzzle flash even in the dark.

For a gauge of penetrative ability he used 1/2-inch steel and, as a basis of comparison, he tried well-known standard loads on this plate. The Remington 180-grain .30-'06 load went through, but the Government load failed to penetrate it. However, a handload of 51 grains of 4320 powder sent the M1 Service bullet through it. In the .257 Remington Roberts no factory load or equivalent handload was able to penetrate this same plate. On the other hand, a dozen different combination-loads in this .257 Roberts sent their bullets merrily romping through it. Furthermore, combination-loads in the .257 Roberts penetrated a 3/8-inch plate of steel which no load in .30-'06 or .270 Winchester caliber would penetrate for him.

Another check on the improved velocity of the combination-load was a field test of its practical trajectory. Using the 50-yard zero and aiming in center at all ranges, shots were taken at 50 yards, 100 yards, 150 yards and 200 yards. The total group was 2 inches high and 1 1/2 inches wide. This was with the W. T. & C. W. 87-grain bullet and Mr. Pike's combination-load, No. 31. The W. R. A. factory dope for the 87-grain cartridge would put this bullet on aim at 50 yards, an inch low at 100 yards and more than 6 inches low at 200 yards. With the factory 117-grain cartridge on aim at 50 yards, the W. R. A. dope places it 1 1/2 inches low at 100 yards, and more than 8 inches low at 200 yards. Pike's combination-load

put this bullet on aim at 50 yards, practically on aim at 100 and 150 yards, 2 1/4 inches low at 200 yards and 3 inches low at 250 yards. Pike's No. 31 combination-load made a 2-inch group at 200 yards and his No. 32 combination-load made a 3 1/2-inch group at that range including one shot poorly held.

His No. 31 combination-load in the .257 Roberts consists of 6.5 grains weight of Hercules No. 2400, followed by 6.0 grains of Hercules Lightning, 10.0 grains of HiVel No. 2, 9.0 grains of I. M. R. No. 17 and 9.0 grains of duPont No. 4320, behind the 87-grain W. T. & C. W. bullet. His No. 32 combination is similar, but the amount of No. 2400 powder is reduced 1/2 grain and the HiVel No. 2 portion is cut a full grain, behind heavier bullets.

Pike says primers were not flattened nearly as much with his combination loads as with standard ammunition. To prove to himself that pressures were mild, he used modern primers in old fired cases which had enlarged flash holes, in connection with his No. 31 combination-load. He considers the .257 Roberts case ideally proportioned for combination-loads, but he has also obtained a marked improvement with this method of loading in other calibers as well, ranging from the .22 Lovell to the .30-'06. What is accomplished by the proper combination is a stepping up of the velocity without quite reaching the normal pressure peak. The theory is that the volume of gas released at different rates by the different propellants is so utilized in certain combinations as to sustain pressures just short of the normal single-powder peak.

Another combination-load which Pike used in the .257 Roberts to send both the 87-grain and 117-grain bullets through the 1/2-inch steel plate totaled only 36 grains. This comprised 6 grains each of the following six propellants: 2400, 4198, Lightning, HiVel No. 2, 3031 and 4320. He used the cheaper .25-caliber jacketed bullets with this milder combination-load, but they all slipped through the 1/2-inch steel plate which every factory load or equivalent single-powder handload had failed to penetrate.

If any reader wants to try combination loads I would recommend extreme care and every precaution. First, use a superlatively strong modern action; second, start at an obviously low level and build up gradually; and third, thoroughly test all unknown combinations, with a string tied to the trigger and from behind a barricade, before firing them from the shoulder.

The set-up used for the tests



HOME GUNSMITHING

By "PROFESSIONAL"

IN APPLYING HEAT for drying while whiskering a stock with a glued joint, keep the direct heat away from the edges of the joint as much as possible, or the glue at the edge may be injured.

In repairing broken stocks where the break is clean, such as a piece split off of comb, toe, or pistol grip, always use casein glue or a good hide glue, but in case of splits or cracks, the duPont cement will work better. Get a fresh tube of the cement so that it is as thin as possible, and spread the crack as far open as you can without cracking it farther, and work the cement into the crack. A thin wire like a piece of fine spring wire is very good for working this cement down into a crack. Spread the cement along the edges of the crack, and then draw the wire over it lengthwise of the crack with as much of the wire down in the crack as you can get, and work quickly before the cement can thicken. In using this cement do not warm the stock, as heat hastens the setting of the cement. If the crack is opened pretty wide at one end, hold the stock so that this end is up, and pour the cement in there in quantities, and it will run down pretty well into the crack.

If the stock is splintered, which may happen sometimes with a Krag on account of the large hollow in it, clean out this hollow at the inner end as well as possible, and pack plastic wood in there; and when you assemble the outside splinters, take duPont cement and mix it with plastic wood to thin the plastic wood, and set the splinters in place with this mixture. Plastic wood of itself is rather brittle, but the addition of the duPont cement to it toughens it greatly and makes it stand up to an edge.

Plastic wood will work very well for filling up gouges in the stock if you do not care about the grainless surface of it, but the mixture known as Stock Maker's Shellac is a great improvement in looks over the plastic wood. This shellac may be purchased in sticks or you can make your own. The formula for it is as follows:

- 12 ounces dry shellac
- 4 " rosin
- 8 ounces alcohol (pure grain spirits)
- 1 ounce turpentine

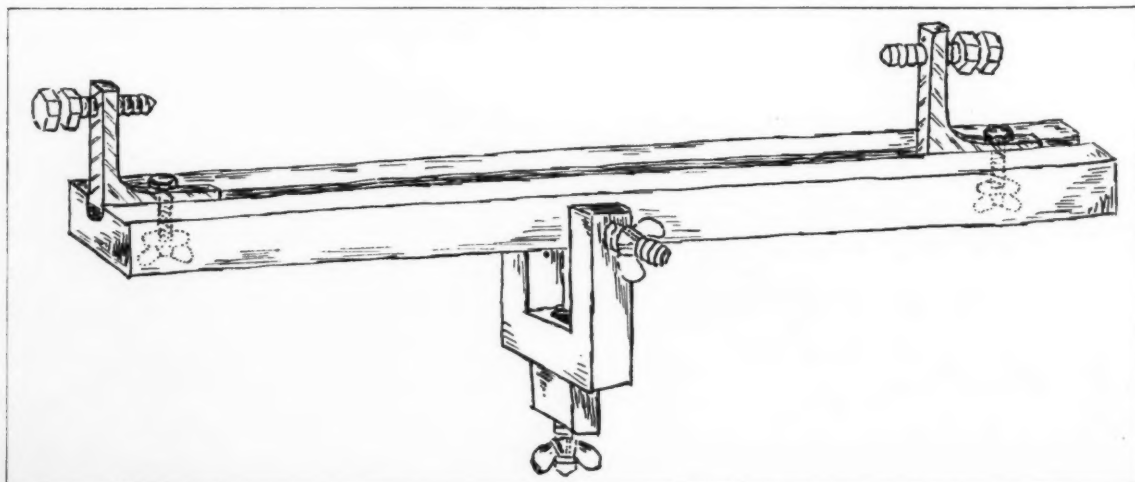
Dissolve the shellac in the alcohol and the rosin in the turpentine, and then mix the two solutions and heat them slowly until they thicken to a paste-like consistency; then pour into moulds. The moulds may be made of wax paper folded to make vee-shaped troughs and placed in the lid of a box, such as a shoe box.

In using this shellac, heat the place in the stock to which you wish to apply it, and then apply the shellac with a warm—not hot—piece of steel like a screw-driver blade. If the steel is too hot it will burn the shellac, and the latter will not stick to the wood. Use an *old* screw-driver, of course; one that you don't care about, as heating the blade will draw the temper.

A dent in a stock can be repaired by the steaming method if the fibers of the wood are not broken. Several thicknesses of wet cloth, or a wet blotter, can be laid over the dent, and a hot flatiron or soldering iron applied, so that steam is driven into the wood, thus expanding it and raising the dent. The wood at this point must be refinished afterwards, of course, as the steam will usually remove both filler and finish.

Checking a gun stock is an art acquired by patient and steady application. There is nothing difficult about it, provided you have a few necessary pieces of equipment, the most necessary of which is a cradle for holding the stock. This cradle (see sketch) is of simple construction, being a straight piece of 2" x 4" (preferably hard wood, though soft wood will answer the purpose) about 42" long. Take two pieces of 5/8" x 3/4" steel or 3/4" square steel, and bend each of these to a right angle, with one end 4" long and the other 6" long. At about the center of the 4" end drill a 3/8" hole for a bolt, to fasten these pieces to the 2" x 4", so that the 6" end of the steel piece stands upright. Through the end of this 6" arm drill and tap a hole for a 1/2" bolt, this hole to run parallel with the 2" x 4" beam. Get two 1/2" hexagon-head bolts about 4" long with nuts, and run the threads clear up to the head of each bolt. Point the ends of the bolts at about a sixty-degree included angle. This can be done either with a file while holding the bolt up-

The checking cradle described



right in a vise, or on a grinding wheel. These points should be as smooth as you can make them, as they serve as centers to hang the stock between, the stock being turned on them as you work. The nuts are placed on the bolts, and run up near the head, and the bolts are then screwed through the steel uprights so that the nuts can be used as lock nuts after the bolts are tightened sufficiently on a stock.

The 2" x 4" wood base should be grooved full length on one of the wide sides so that the steel pieces will set in to about half their depth. This groove can be cut with wood chisels, and is easier done if a series of holes are first bored with a brace and bit to remove most of the wood. After this groove is cut, a few $\frac{3}{8}$ " holes are drilled clear through in the center of the groove near each end, about an inch apart, so that the steel pieces may be bolted in place with $\frac{3}{8}$ " bolts. These bolts should have washers and wing nuts, although the wing nuts are not absolutely necessary, and ordinary nuts can be used, though these are not as convenient.

A piece of 2" x 6" wood about 6" or 7" long can be notched out at one end to receive the wood base of the cradle, and a $\frac{1}{2}$ " bolt passed through from side to side. This notch should be $3\frac{1}{2}$ " or 4" deep so that when the end of this short piece is clamped in a vise the cradle can be tilted up and down in the notch. The nut on the bolt that holds the cradle in this notch can be adjusted to any tension you wish, thus allowing the cradle to tilt easily or with considerable friction in the notch. If you have a vise with a swivel base this will be all the cradle fixture you will need, but without a swivel-base vise a swivel fixture is necessary. This can be easily made by drilling a hole for a $\frac{1}{2}$ " bolt lengthwise through the notched piece, so that a carriage bolt may be passed through from the notch to the lower end; and a piece of 2" thick wood, that can be held in the vise, is drilled with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " hole to slip over the end of the bolt, with a washer and nut on the bottom, so that the cradle can be swiveled in a full circle.

In setting up a stock in this cradle for checking, a round piece of wood like a broomstick is fastened in the barrel channel with a wood screw (be careful not to run the screw clear through the forearm). If the forearm has a hole

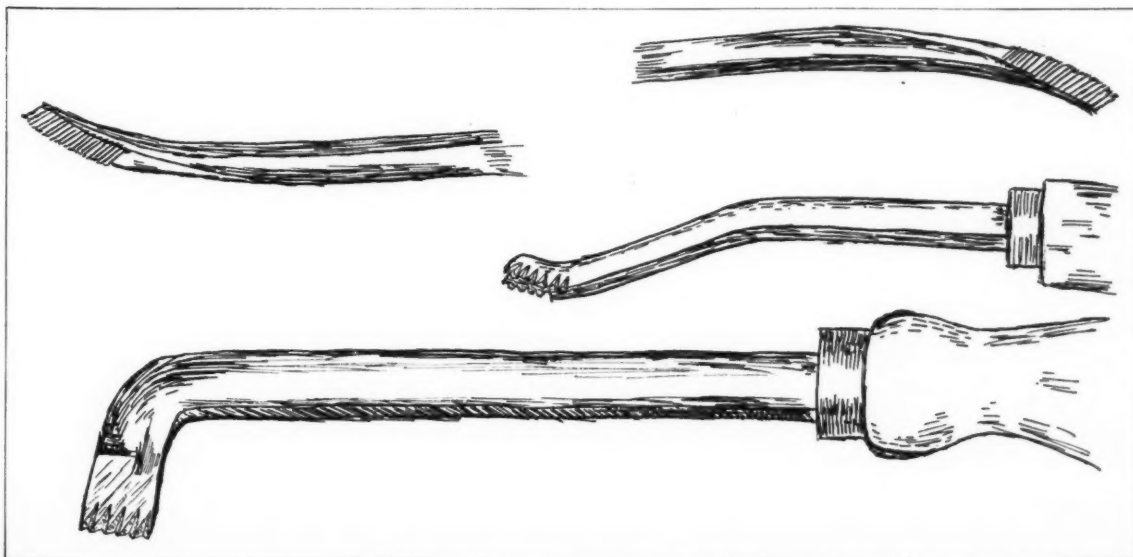
clear through it for a sling swivel or inner barrel band, a small bolt may be used through this hole and through the broomstick. The end of the broomstick should extend about an inch beyond the end of the forearm, and in the end of this stick drill and countersink a hole for the pointed bolt in the steel piece of the cradle. If you do not have a countersink, a $\frac{1}{4}$ " drilled hole will answer the purpose, as the pointed bolt will make its own countersink. The bolt in the steel piece at the other end of the cradle is entered into one of the holes in the end of the butt stock. Thus the stock turns on centers. These bolts should be so adjusted that the stock can be easily turned by hand, but does not turn under the cut of the checking tool.

There is a wide difference of opinion and preference in regard to checking tools, some checkers liking a short, rather heavy tool, others a long heavy tool, and still others the light, medium-length type. The tool I like best is the Snyder type, a medium-length (about 4") light tool made of $\frac{5}{32}$ " or $\frac{1}{8}$ " square drill rod. This tool is called a vee tool, or deepening tool, and has a single edge. About one inch of each end of the tool is bent up at a slight angle, and the bottom or outside of this bend is filed to an included angle of 75 or 80 degrees.

There is also a difference of opinion as to how the teeth should be cut, some advocating the use of a small die-sinkers knife-file or a small three-square Swiss-type file for the purpose, which makes a rather wide tooth, while others prefer to cut the teeth with a small chisel, which makes fine teeth like those of a file. On this deepening tool I prefer the chisel-cut teeth. All checkers agree that the teeth should slope backward from the edge toward the top while looking at the tool from the front end, thus giving a shearing cut when used. The tool you use to cut these teeth with, whether a file or a chisel, should not be held at right angles to the surface you are cutting the teeth in, but at about a 45-degree angle toward the front end of the checking tool, so that the widest opening of the cut is toward the front. Cut these teeth as close together as you can, whether you use a file or a chisel to cut them with. The steel should of course be soft while you are bending it, filing to shape, and cutting the teeth. I use these deepening tools with a double end (teeth cut on each

(Continued on page 38)

Checking tools. Top: the two ends (enlarged) of double-ended chisel-cut Snyder-type deepening tool made from $\frac{5}{32}$ " square steel. Middle: file-cut umbrella-rib spacing tool (enlarged). Bottom: heavy-type deepening tool, file-cut (about actual size)



A TINKERER'S KINKS

By M. A. COOPER

WARNING! This is merely the "dope" as far as we've gone. The writer is no expert. Since he has just succeeded in completely spoiling the accuracy of a top-notch match rifle by some alleged "improvements," anyone taking his advice or following his suggestions had better remember the old joke about the man who took his neighbor's advice about giving his horse turpentine for bots.

Been putting scope blocks on the 20" barrel 52, or, rather, the rear block on receiver. This will save a lot of trouble in the case of this action, which is used for experimental guns only. Don't know how it will work, but the Model 70 Winchester match rifles of various sorts all have rear block on receiver.

This means using the *lowest* type block on the receiver, and the type used as front block on the standard 52, on the barrel. This combination makes the top of the blocks level on a 1 1/8" barrel, and raises the scope just enough so that you can get a 200-yard elevation on a straight barrel (same size all the way) with the Super-Targetspot. The big front end of this scope sometimes hits the barrel when you raise the rear end for 200-yard shooting.

Best way I've found of lining-up scope blocks, either when first putting them on a barrel or when they are already on, but are cock-eyed, is by using two steel rules. Clamp the blocks roughly in place, using any sort of clamp that will leave the screw holes open. Block up the barrel so that the receiver points at a window, a sheet of white paper—anything white.

There is usually some sort of horizontal flat place on the receiver of a rifle, to check from. Balance a rule on edge, crosswise, on the flat. Balance the other rule on edge, crosswise, on the block (both rules at right angles to the bore).

Stand out in front of the muzzle, and move your head around until you more or less line-up the top edge of the rule on the block with the bottom edge of the rule on the receiver, against the window or whatnot. Likely you'll find that the edges are not parallel; in fact quite a noticeable angle between them. Move the scope block over until they are parallel.

Instructions for putting on blocks generally read as follows: "When block is in position, center-punch, drill, and tap." Ten words, and a darned sight easier to say than to do. When you try this, you'll find that the screw holes are too small for you to see when the doggone center punch is centered in the hole.

Best way I've found is to take a machinist's scriber and place the point in the exact center of the hole, as nearly as you can come to it. Get some lights around, so as to have as nearly no shadow in the hole as possible. Hold the scriber with one hand, and twist your head around so as to look at the centering from all sides. Keep on doing this until your patience is about gone, and when finally convinced that the point of scriber is really in the center of the hole, then bear down hard on the scriber, moving the top of it in small circles. Take it out, and view the tiny dent from all angles. If it is centered, okay. If not, set the point just outside the tiny burr, around the hole, on

the side you want to move the hole over to, and do the same thing over again.

Do this to only one hole. Then grind a center punch sharp, and get the point in the hole you've made. One good lick with a hammer is enough. Drill with a 1/16" drill first. It won't ooze out on one side of your center. Finish up with the regular stubby drill that comes with the blocks, and tap carefully. Take out all the chips with cotton on a match, or twisted on the 1/16" drill, just as a dentist does. Screw the block on, and fix up the other hole the same way; then put the second block on.

If scope blocks are already on the barrel, and are cock-eyed—but not too doggone cock-eyed, you can help matters in two ways: First, by shimming up the low side. Use shim stock, copper (you can beat this out thinner when needed), or at a pinch, paper. Best way is to grind down high side of block very slightly. Best tool is a Handee Grinder, or the like. You can use other grinding wheels, but *go easy*. You can also use a coarse whetstone, preferably carborundum. This is a gosh-awful job. In a pinch, heat block to a dull red, and sometimes (not always) you can file it. Spot it as you work it down, with lamp black and oil. (The really best way to put on scope blocks is to let a competent gunsmith do it.)

Been making a stock for the 20" experimental barrel, and got to figuring on the effect of the placing of front sling swivel and length of butt on the shooting position. Shoving the swivel forward moves the left hand forward, moves the body to the left, and certainly makes gun point lower. Also makes the sling worse about slipping down the arm.

Shortening butt makes the body lie straighter behind the gun, makes right elbow stick out farther, maybe far enough so it will slide unless bedded in the now-illegal hole in firing point.

Just put an inside barrel band on a 52 stock, with the new Winchester sling swivel on it. Put the band screw just under one of the screw holes in the bed plate of the sling swivel. This concealed the screw, and also left the swivel clear of the band. Haven't tried it yet, but hope it will work.

(Later) Gun shot much better at 100 yards in machine rest, averaging 1.29" for a 50-shot series; *biggest* 10-shot group being 1.45". (It had *averaged* 1.47" *without stock* in machine rest.) Bedding not right yet.

Best and easiest-made handle for small files I've found is .30-'06 cartridge case, with the tang of the file soldered into the neck. Polish the tang with sand paper, and tin it with acid-core solder. Small wood handles are hard to get, and are apt to split, which makes it possible for the tang of the file to dig into the hand, making a very nasty wound. The soldering iron doesn't seem to affect temper at all.

Amos Browning got second in the 25-yard and 50-yard Iron Sight Match, indoors, at the Atlanta Rifle Club in a match some time ago, under very unusual circumstances. Amos' 52 has a Johnson barrel—one of the best that has

(Continued on page 38)

FIREARMS LEGISLATION 1939

DURING THE FIRST two or three weeks of each Legislature's session hundreds of bills of all kinds are "dropped into the hopper." Many of the bills are introduced without any idea of their being pressed for passage but merely to satisfy political obligations. The net result is a mass of newspaper publicity concerning bills which are not even in printed form.

The following list of Federal and State firearms bills is, for the above reasons, incomplete. It covers proposed legislation concerning which we have definite information. Further information will be published from month to month as it becomes available. Members will be notified by special mail bulletins when immediate action is required in connection with legislation in their own states.

Arkansas—*Senate Bill 149* by Senator Steel would levy a special privilege tax on ammunition. Referred to Committee on Conservation of Natural Resources. Copy of bill not received—comment reserved.

California—*Assembly Bill 1436* by Assemblyman Gannon relates to the "keeping and bearing of arms." Referred to the Military Affairs Committee. No copy of the bill has yet been received but it apparently needs careful investigation. Copies should be obtained from your local Assemblyman at Sacramento and your opinion of the bill immediately written to him.

Connecticut—*House Bill 951* by Representative Mead and *House Bill 1368* by Representative Eliot would include rifles and shotguns under the provisions of the present Connecticut law relative to the possession, carrying and sale of pistols and other dangerous and deadly weapons. Both bills have been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. No copies of these bills have been received but the preliminary reports would indicate that the situation has developed which we have consistently warned against; viz: the passage of a law regulating pistols and revolvers is soon followed by further laws similarly requiring permits for shotguns and rifles.

Senate Bill 158 by Senator Payne would restrict the carrying of pistols or revolvers without a permit. It would exempt reserve officers while on their way to or from target practice but would not exempt civilian pistol club members. Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee. No copy of this bill has been received.

In the case of all three of these bills in Connecticut shooters should contact their Representative and Senator at Hartford requesting copies of the bills and immediately advising him as to their opinion of the proposed legislation.

Indiana—*Senate Bill 199* by Senators Weiss, Seegar, O'Brien, White, Biddinger and Garret, would repeal the present firearms law of Indiana (Act of February 21, 1935) reenacting much of the present law but making certain important changes in the procedure for obtaining pistol permits. We are informed that under existing regulations fingerprints are required. The proposed act legalizes this requirement. The present law permits applications to be made through the seller of the pistol, the application being acted upon by any circuit, superior or criminal court judge. The new act would require the application to be made to the circuit court, fingerprints being taken and sent to the State Police. The present act requires a delay of 48 hours before the pistol may be delivered. The proposed act would delay delivery until the State Police had checked the fingerprints against their criminal file and reported their findings to the circuit court. Exemption is provided for members of civilian rifle and pistol clubs for target shooting purposes and in this and other respects the proposed act is similar to the existing Indiana law. Referred to the Committee on Interstate Cooperation of the Senate.

Maine—*Senate Bill 72* has been reported to us as requiring "weapon permits." No information is available as to who introduced the bill, its provisions, or the committee to which referred.

Maryland—*House Bill 43* by Representative Heinekamp and *House Bill 52* by Representative Kosakowski provide for pistol permits and *No. 52* calls for fingerprints. Both bills have been referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 32 by Senator Johnson is the same as *House 43*. Referred to Committee on Judicial Procedure. No copies of these bills have been received. Get copies from your State

Representatives and Senators and write them your opinions after reading the proposed bills.

Michigan—*Senate Bill 63* by Senator Hammond requires fingerprinting of applicants for firearms licenses. Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 67 by Senator Baldwin makes it a misdemeanor to sell or furnish firearms to minors under 17 years of age without consent of parents. Referred to Judiciary Committee. No objection appears to this bill on the surface although no copy has been received for study.

New York—*Senate Bill No. 213* by Senator Stokes prohibits carrying of rifles larger than .22 rim fire in those counties where the taking of deer is limited to long bows or shotguns. Proposed Act makes no provision for carrying Springfield rifles to established target ranges for target shooting purposes. Rifle clubs in counties affected should immediately contact their State Senators at Albany requesting necessary amendment to this Bill. Referred to Committee on Conservation.

North Carolina—*House Bill 13* by Representative Fenner is a general tax bill. It would impose a tax of \$50.00 annually on dealers selling pistols and \$10.00 annually on dealers selling metallic cartridges. It authorizes counties, cities and towns to levy similar taxes. These taxes are prohibitive and discriminatory in that dealers in metallics (which includes dealers selling only .22 rim fire) are taxed while dealers in paper shot shells are apparently not to be taxed. Few North Carolina dealers enjoy enough volume on the sale of pistols or metallics to warrant the payment of the proposed taxes out of their profits. To this extent the proposed act is a handicap to the promotion of shooting in the State. Clubs would support their local dealers in opposing these special taxes in the general tax law. Referred to Finance Committee.

Senate Bill 12 by Senator Taylor is similar to *House 13*.

Ohio—*Senate Bill 34* by Senator Ascherman is drafted around the Uniform Firearms Bill but has been so redrafted as to not actually coincide in all respects with the Uniform Act. The Ohio situation is involved with numerous local firearms ordinances and it is the expressed opinion of the Ohio State Rifle and Pistol Association that there is now ample law in the State to take care of the criminal possession and use of firearms.

Oregon—*House Bill 88* by Representative Bull provides for forfeiture of the gun to the State if another person is negligently shot. A new approach to an old problem! Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 43 by Senator Wallace prohibits hunting of elk with gun less than .30 caliber except those using a bullet with remaining energy of at least 1400 pounds at 100 yards or weighing not less than 150 grains. Referred to Game Committee.

Texas—*House Bill 118* by Representative Harrel would require all owners of firearms to register with the sheriff. A typically silly proposal more to be expected from the non-shooting East than from the State which fathered the Alamo. This bill should be killed. Referred to the Committee on Criminal Jurisdiction.

U. S. Congress—*House Bill 2549* by Congressman Schafer of Wisconsin is the bill recurrently introduced in Congress at the request of former Attorney General Cummings. It contains all the familiar provisions for the collection of a tax and registration of all pistols and revolvers now owned as well as those purchased after the passage of the act. By applying the general search and seizure provisions of the Internal Revenue Acts it makes it possible for Federal agents to enter homes or places of business without warrant during daylight hours to search for pistols or revolvers on information given by any citizen. It exempts local police departments only at the will of the Secretary of the Treasury. All that we have previously said editorially about the previous pistol bills introduced at the request of Mr. Cummings applies equally to *House Bill 2549*. The bill is vicious in its concealed invasion of individual and local rights and is unnecessary in view of the many Federal laws now in effect relative to criminal activities and the sale, transportation and shipment of firearms. This bill should be killed. Referred to the House Ways and Means Committee.

The Old Coach's Corner

Accuracy

MILITARY AND SPORTING rifles and their ammunition are said to be accurate when series of ten consecutive shots fired at a target will group in 3 inches at 100 yards or 6 inches at 200 yards. Match or target rifles and their ammunition are said to be accurate when they will group in half the above diameters. A rifle and its ammunition are said to be gilt edge in accuracy when they will group with fair regularity in 1 inch at 100 or 2 inches at 200 yards. Such gilt edge rifles and ammunition are rare.

The rifle is shot for accuracy from a machine rest, or is fitted with a telescope sight and is fired from a bench rest by a very skilled shooter. The unaided eye cannot see closer than about 1 inch per hundred yards, and if the rifle were aimed with metallic (often called "Iron") sights, some of this error of aim would enter into the results.

You will notice I have said rifles *and* ammunition. The best of rifles will not shoot well with poor ammunition, and ammunition varies these days more than the rifle. We now know just how rifles should be made to give the best accuracy, and modern precision machinery allows us to make them thus; but we have much more difficulty in turning out extremely accurate ammunition. In the last analysis more depends upon the bullet than on anything else. If we could produce perfect bullets and then have them pass from the cartridge case into and through the bore and out the muzzle without deforming them at all we might be able to fire them all into one hole. But such perfection of bullets has never been obtained.

Forty years ago our best accuracy was obtained with heavy barrelled single shot rifles with muzzle-breech loading barrels made by H. M. Pope. Pope rifles usually shot with gilt edge accuracy, but practically their trajectory was so curved and the bullets were so deflected by wind that they were not practical rifles except for target shooting at known short distances. While the old Pope rifles still equal the modern weapons in pure accuracy, they are not nearly so practical as the latter for hitting objects at estimated distances or on windy days.

Today our most accurate rifles have modern bolt actions, rather heavy barrels, and one piece stocks. Heavy barrels are much better for accuracy than light ones (perfection of manufacture being equal) because the heavy barrel vibrates less and more evenly while the bullet is passing through the bore, it retains a more even temperature, and it is less affected by varying tension in holding.

Happily our .22 Long Rifle cartridge was so designed originally that extremely fine accuracy can be obtained with it, and by specializing in its manufacture a very high degree of perfection has been obtained. The older center fire cartridges do not have such favorable design and not much improvement is possible with them. In these, the most accurate results are now being obtained with the more modern calibers such as .22 Hornet, .22-3000 Lovell, .220 Swift, .257 Roberts, .30-'06, and .300 Magnum.

Perfection in Marksmanship

A rifleman reaches the ultimate of perfection in marksmanship when he can, with the aid of a telescope sight, and firing in the prone position, shoot so uniformly that the resulting group closely approaches the possibilities of rifle and ammunition. As will be seen from the scores and groups made annually in our big matches, quite a few shooters attain or almost attain this perfection every year. That is, quite a few shooters made "10 X Possibles" which

means ten consecutive shots fired in a match, all hitting in the X-ring which is a dotted circle 1-inch in diameter in the center of the bullseye of the 100 yard target.

The essentials of marksmanship are holding, aiming, and trigger squeeze. If the rifle is held steady and uniformly, is aimed accurately, then the bullseye will surely be struck provided the shooter can squeeze the trigger so not to disturb the perfect hold and aim at the instant of discharge.

At the start the tyro finds his greatest difficulty in holding the rifle steady. Formerly it took years to learn to hold steady, but our recent experiences have taught us that we can teach a tyro to hold his rifle practically steady in just a few days' practice in the prone position with the aid of the gunsling. Therefore the beginner should first learn to hold in this position, then he can see whether he is aiming accurately, and can also see to increase his squeeze only when the sights are on the mark—things he could not see to do when his hold was unsteady.

But it is not so easy to learn a perfect trigger squeeze which is really the whole soul of fine rifle shooting. Holding and aiming are comparatively easy, but good trigger squeeze takes a lot of practice and self-study. The Army Manual on shooting says that the entire difference between poor and fair shots, and fair and expert shots lies in the trigger squeeze. I cannot over-emphasize this. And we cannot possibly even begin to learn trigger squeeze, and that fine co-ordination of aiming, holding, and squeezing, until we can hold the rifle steady. Hence the importance of starting in the prone position with the gunsling, and continuing to shoot that way until we have learned to co-ordinate—that is, learned to make very good scores.

When you have progressed that far take up the sitting position, which is only a little more difficult than prone. Then take up rapid fire and also the standing position. Rapid fire is not hard. It merely consists of quick functioning of the mechanism, proper timing, and quicker co-ordination of aim, hold, and squeeze. A few hours a week should make you fair at it in a month. But the standing or offhand position is hard, and I venture to assert that hardly anyone becomes a good offhand shot until he has devoted at least four hours a week for a year to it.

To keep in good form you will have to practice. I should say you will have to shoot at least twice a week in all positions, both slow and rapid fire. In the absence of time to go to the range, dry shooting at home will do much to hasten perfection and keep you in form. When I have been unable to practice as steadily as this, I have noticed that it takes me almost a month of three or four practices a week to get in form again, and much more than that to get to shooting offhand well again.

Practice makes perfect, and it is when a shooter gets so skilled in the performance of the three essentials that with a scope he can hold and aim steadily on a .22 caliber bullet hole at 100 yards, and then squeeze his trigger so that his cross-hairs won't move off that bullet hole when his firing pin falls, that he reaches that stage of perfection that wins the big matches and makes 10-X possibles.

This is not all there is to marksmanship by a whole lot. There is also judgment of wind, estimate of distance, study of trajectory, and many other things, all of which should be mastered before one can call himself an all-round rifleman. But as I said in my Corner last month, the one all-important factor is *uniformity*. Uniformity is always synonymous with accuracy, in both man and gun.

DIRECTORS' MEETING, 1939

(Continued from page 11)

A great deal of work needs to be done in the field of publicity but there was unquestionably a great deal more local as well as national publicity for rifle and pistol shooting in 1938 than at any time in the past.

During the year the National Headquarters Publicity Service released, exclusive of National Match stories, fourteen national releases by mail and wire to a total of 21,059 papers, and in addition thirty-four nation-wide stories were released by Washington correspondents and wire service. Ten special state releases were sent to 2,478 papers. 385 special localized stories were released to 1,170 newspapers and 736 localized stories covering junior and senior qualification awards and the chartering of clubs were released to 1,758 newspapers. 27 special magazine articles were released. 13 exclusive stories were prepared for individuals and released by them for circulation through channels of personal contact. 4 national broadcasts were arranged and 31 local broadcasts were conducted in connection with registered shoots or the visits of staff men to local meetings.

The American Rifleman

An entirely new format was adopted for our magazine beginning with the May 1938 issue. Improved appearance and greater legibility were the two factors sought. The changes have been widely approved.

The difficulty of editing a magazine for a membership having such a variety of interests was notably illustrated during the past year. A questionnaire sent all members asked for votes for the most popular and least popular articles printed during 1937. The article which easily outstripped all others as the most popular also received the most votes as being the worst of the year!

The greatest demand seems to be for articles of the basic instructional type and we are increasing our efforts to secure for publication material of this kind.

We have continued our efforts to strictly scrutinize advertisers and reject all copy which appears to be false or misleading as well as all advertisements from sources which appear to be ethically or financially unreliable.

Our advertising lineage compares favorably with other magazines in the hunting and fishing field despite our refusal to carry alcoholic beverage advertising and our inability, because of relatively limited circulation, to obtain large space cigarette or other general advertising.

Ranges and Equipment

There are more and better small bore and pistol ranges in the United States today than ever before. The insistence of the Association on certain standards in connection with Registered Tournaments is directly responsible for much of this improvement. Shooters attending Registered Tournaments appreciate the efficient equipment they find there and return to their own club ranges with demands for improvement. There are more permanent buildings—club houses, statistical offices and latrines—more grassed firing points and ranges, graveled walks and covered firing points, more picnic grounds in connection with ranges, than ever before.

National Headquarters is constantly in contact with numerous projects for which working drawings, layouts and ideas are being furnished, many times beginning with the selection and approval of sites from Coast and Geodetic Survey maps plus local sketch maps. In this little-thought-about field your Headquarters organization has done some of its most valuable work during the past year.

Many local clubs, community recreation groups and police departments have been guided in their efforts to secure W. P. A. funds for range construction and assisted with the necessary sketches and working drawings.

Service rifle range facilities have been improved to some extent through local club efforts and W. P. A. activities, but it is natural that the development of small bore and pistol ranges proceed much more rapidly.

There is a definite trend toward the improvement of gallery ranges through better lighting, more comfortable heating and furnishing and the location of galleries in larger quarters centrally located. This trend is due in considerable measure to the coordination of the activities of numerous small clubs into local leagues using a common range.

Technical Service

By consistently pursuing a policy of accumulating the best available information and answering inquiries without prejudice our Technical service has attained an excellent position in the minds of American shooters. Handling such inquiries is a difficult task because of the strong opinions frequently held regarding various theories or performance characteristics of various guns and loads. Never-the-less this service is of great value to thousands of members who are not interested in the competitive phase of our activities.

We have continued the policy of furnishing without bias the best information obtainable regardless of whether products are advertised in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. Our information is derived from manufacturer's reports, our own tests and hundreds of letters received from sportsmen in the field. We lack scientific equipment for chemical, physical and ballistic tests but we do develop a wealth of practical data.

During the year our Technical Service alone answered 4,522 personal letters. A total of 521 items were described and discussed in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN and a total of 78 pages of material was published in the magazine.

Finances

A complete copy of the audit of the Association's accounts by the firm of Snyder and Farr, Certified Public Accountants, has been furnished all members of the Board of Directors and Executive Council.

Briefly, it may be said that the year's operations were definitely more favorable than would normally be expected in view of the general business decline. After setting up a reserve of \$3,000 as an advance partial payment against the expenses of sending International Teams abroad during 1939 and a reserve of \$3,800 for taxes, we added \$14,941 to surplus as compared with \$15,090 added last year.

Our investments are now handled by the executive officers of the corporation under the supervision of a Finance Committee which is a sub-committee of the Executive Committee. The investment counsel formerly employed was discontinued by action of the Executive Committee at its meeting on June 4, 1938.

The following comparative figures will be of interest:

ASSETS			
	1937	1938	
Cash and Accounts Receivable	\$68,421.87	\$54,681.93	
Furniture and Fixtures	29,624.95	31,249.08	
Medals, Dues and Trophies	24,843.24	24,676.67	
Investments at cost	78,207.43	80,184.69	
Cash in closed banks	388.65	162.64	
Land and Buildings		63,734.05	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$201,486.14	\$254,889.06	
LIABILITIES			
	1937	1938	
Accounts Payable and Deferred Salaries	\$6,506.86	\$10,455.80	
Reserve for Taxes	1,750.00	3,800.00	
Memberships paid in advance	14,417.50	13,697.50	
Reserve for International Team		3,000.00	
Accrued Interest on Mortgage		182.08	
First Mortgage Headquarters Building		30,000.00	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$22,674.36	\$61,135.38	
SURPLUS	178,811.78	193,753.68	
INCOME			
	1937	1938	
Membership Fees and Subscriptions	\$164,939.67	\$161,922.67	
Match Entry and Qualification Fees	34,743.29	32,107.47	
Book Sales, Insignia and Royalties	3,851.29	2,616.45	
Interest, Dividends, etc.	5,618.23	5,098.24	
Donations and miscellaneous	1,400.50	3,315.51	
Advertising (net after commission)	47,973.00	56,805.85	
TOTAL INCOME	\$258,525.98	\$261,866.18	
EXPENSE			
	1937	1938	
Advertising (direct mail and display)	\$12,491.03	\$13,664.06	
Medals and Insignia	13,256.27	11,634.41	
Depreciation and taxes	5,309.05	3,741.38	
Unemployment Taxes	1,710.81		
Board of Directors and Executive Committee Expense	2,235.29	1,786.78	
Investment Council and other services	2,351.57	3,069.58	
Office Expense	16,660.93	15,739.91	
General Printing Expense	14,685.39	13,540.08	
Radio Broadcasts and News Releases	1,787.58	1,794.21	
Subsides to State Assns.	464.09	100.50	
Rent	7,742.00	7,722.00	
Printing and Postage AMERICAN RIFLEMAN	62,373.49	66,754.45	
Salaries	90,183.45	92,462.69	
Travel	10,532.11	9,621.71	
Miscellaneous (bad debts, etc.)	252.45	48.83	
International Team Expense	2,604.18	3,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$242,918.88	\$244,680.59	
EXCESS INCOME OVER EXPENSE	15,607.10	17,185.60	

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., MARCH, 1939

Rifle Remington

REMINGTON ANNOUNCES .22 "POLICE TARGETMASTER"...A NEW CARTRIDGE FOR PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS

**Finer Accuracy...Less Muzzle Flash...
Practically No Unburned Powder**

* * *

BRIDGEPORT, CONN.—Here's the ammunition pistol shooters have been waiting for—a .22 match cartridge designed especially for pistols and revolvers.

The new Remington Kleanbore Police Targetmaster (.22 long rifle) was made up to meet the needs of pistol and revolver clubs, police practice, and shooting galleries—wherever the highest degree of accuracy is needed.

Machine rest tests show amazing accuracy

Machine rest tests at 50 yards, with ten-inch barrels, show groups consistently under $\frac{3}{4}$ inch. With six-inch barrels, groups average 1 inch. At right are typical Police Targetmaster groups made with a six-inch barrel.

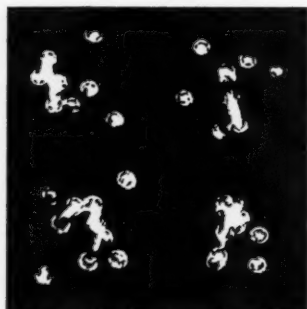
Special powder used

A special smokeless powder is used in Police Targetmaster .22's, in order to reduce muzzle flash. Shooters will especially appreciate this for indoor target shooting.

Higher powder efficiency

There is practically no unburned powder left after the discharge of a Police Targetmaster .22. Instead of the usual loss of efficiency common to standard .22 rifle powder when used in revolvers, Police Targetmaster .22's have special powder that delivers maximum efficiency in short barrels.

Police Targetmaster .22's oper-



ate perfectly in automatic pistols. Cases are of brass, for easy extraction and strong construction. Kleanbore priming, of course. Made in .22 long rifle size only, with lubricated bullet.

Prove these cartridges yourself—in your own gun—on your own range. You'll find your scores increase. Get a supply now.



SCHWARZ, NAISH AND SCHILLING WIN EVENTS AT NIAGARA MATCHES



Roy Schwarz

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Roy Schwarz of Detroit, Michigan, took first place in the hard-fought 100-yard any sights event at the Annual Niagara Frontier Smallbore Rifle Matches.

Schwarz, shooting a Model 37 and Palma Kleanbore, scored 200 x 200 with 18 X's. His second target, a 10-X possible, is shown at right. He made another 10-X possible in the 40-shot any sights event.

Naish and Schilling take doubles event

F. R. Naish of Niagara Falls, N. Y., and Frank Schilling of Lockport, N. Y., won the Iron Sights Doubles event (100 yards) with 398 x 400. Both were shooting Palma Kleanbore. Naish also placed third in the iron sights aggregate.

Carl Petri of Buffalo tied for second in the any sights match with 400 x 400 and 30 X's. One of his targets, a 10-X, is shown at right. He used Palma Kleanbore.

ECHOES FROM CAMP PERRY

We have just learned that Lt. Reisenberger, U. S. Marine Corps, won the Scott Trophy at Camp Perry at 300 yards, rapid fire, with the new Remington Palma 180-grain .30-06 cal. ammunition. We also learn that the U. S. Marine Reserve Team won the Roumanian Trophy with Remington Palma 180-grain match ammunition and also the

POSSIBLES and IMPOSSIBLES

by FRANK J. KAHR



While we were on the coast recently we spent some time with the boys at Napa, California, where they were having a two-day shoot on their new indoor range. This shoot is patterned after the Connecticut Matches at New Haven, and naturally so because Hughes Richardson was helping the boys with the shoot. They had a fine turnout and we greatly admired not only the range itself, but the spirit behind the building of this permanent home of the Napa California Rifle Club.

* * *

A mighty fine bit of shooting was done recently by one of New Jersey's leading smallbore shooters, J. C. (Bud) Lippencott, of the Fenmore Rifle Club at the New Brunswick Rifle & Pistol Club's 50-yard Indoor Championship Match on January 29th. Bud went and got himself a possible 500 and 46 X's, also a gold medal and much cash. Seeing some green boxes around the firing point we asked Bud and he said: "Yep, Palma Kleanbore did it." Nice work, Bud.

* * *

We received a letter recently from Lt. S. J. Lanning, Detective Bureau of the Department of Public Safety, Sioux City, Iowa, and with it he enclosed a target. We have never seen five shots better placed or a smaller group. This was made with a brand new Model 37 and Kleanbore at 49 yards.

Lt. Lanning says that when the "37" arrived he gave it the works, and while he has not fired a rifle since last September, he fired 100 shots with the new gun after sighting in and made 1000 x 1000—indoors, of course, and we assume at 50 feet. Lt. Lanning is a fine shot and we have considerable respect for his opinion of the new rifle.

* * *

Earl J. Stephenson, Secretary of the Hawaii Territorial Rifle Association, has kept us informed of smallbore doings in the Islands. The Annual Tournament of the Association was held recently and this decided the Hawaii Territorial Smallbore Championship, an aggregate of the Labor Day Dewar Course Match and three matches of the Annual Tournament.

The new Champion is our correspondent, Earl Stephenson himself with a total score of 1535 which got him the Primo Trophy and special gold medal. Silver Medal to Sgt. William Troy and in third place Captain R. C. Andrews of the 27th Infantry.

E. Campbell of the 27th Infantry with 395 x 400 and 15 X's won the E. C. Hall Trophy, the gold medal award and the Lewers & Cooke prize.

Oh, yes, the Model 37 Rangenmaster and Palma Match ammunition scored

MORE SHOOTERS EARN 10X AND 400 BRASSARDS

TWO BRASSARDS FOR R. N. BROWN

R. N. Brown, of the Nowata, Okla., Rifle Club, scored the first 400 x 400 ever made in the State Line League of Oklahoma. What's more, the last stage of this match was fired in a downpour!

Not content with a 400 brassard only, Brown took his Model 37 and some more Palma Kleanbore out on the range and knocked out a sweet 10-X possible at 50 yards. Here's his target.



BRASSARD FOR MRS. GROSSKOPF

Here's a fine 10-X possible by Mrs. Marshall Grosskopf of Marion, Wisc., made with her Model 37 and Palma Kleanbore.



FIRST 10 SHOTS IN 800 X 800 SCORE

T. K. Stratton of Ridgway, Penna. made this sweet 10-X possible at 50 yards with his Model 37 and Palma Kleanbore—then went on to score 70 more 10's.



OLD STUFF IS GOOD STUFF

Wilbur Miller discovered some 25-year-old Remington Lesmok Cartridges and tried them in his Model 37 at 100 yards—iron sights. Here's the result—197 x 200.



ARTIFICIAL LIGHT NO HANDICAP

Conrad Rowe of Jacksonville, Ill., made these two unusual 5-shot groups at 50 feet, outdoor, by artificial light. He shot a Model 37, using Hi-Skor for the upper target and Kleanbore for the lower.



R.D. TRIGGS WINS METROPOLITAN PRELIMINARY WITH 1249 X 1250



R. D. Triggs of Madison, N. J., who captured the hard-fought New York Metropolitan Preliminary.

**Jersey Rifleman scores
100 X's...shoots
Palma Kleanbore**

Randle Places Second

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—Shooting against a top-flight field of expert smallbore fans, Ransford Triggs of Madison, N. J., took first place in the New York Metropolitan Preliminary Match.

The match consists of 125 shots at 100 yards, any sights, indoors. No sighters are permitted. Triggs' first shot for record was a nine, after which he ran 124 straight tens, including 100-X's.

Randle shoots Model 37

Thurman Randle, shooting a Model 37 for the first time (a stock model from his store in Texas) tied Triggs' score of 1249 x 1250, with 89 X's. Randle's first shot was also a nine, and then he ran 124 straight 10's. He placed second. Both Triggs and Randle used Palma Kleanbore.

Many 10-X possibles

There were quite a few 10-X possibles, including two by Randle, and one each by Triggs, Lem Temple, R. C. Johnson, F. O. Kuhn and E. N. Nindeman, all shooting Palma Kleanbore.

This match always attracts a large field of first ranking shooters. About 100 Metropolitan experts turned out, as well as a good sized out-of-town aggregation from all sections of the country.



Thurman Randle

TRIGGS AND SCHWEITZER WIN UNION CITY CHAMPIONSHIPS!

UNION CITY, N. J.—Both the Telescope Sights title and the Iron Sights title at the recent Union City Championship were won with Palma Kleanbore ammunition. The match is held under the auspices of the Swiss Rifle Association of Hudson County, N. J.

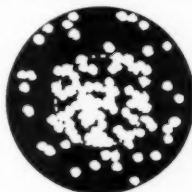
Ransford D. Triggs of Madison, N. J., won the telescope event, consisting of 50 shots at 50 meters, with 499 x 500.

Wins by 5 point margin

The iron sights event, which was also 50 shots at 50 meters, went to William P. Schweitzer of Hillside, N. J., who scored 495 x 500—five points ahead of his nearest competitor.

Triggs went on from this match to win the important Metropolitan New York Preliminary Match, full details of which are elsewhere on this page.

THE TARGET OF THE MONTH



Making 400 possibles over the Dewar course seems to be a habit with W. H. Womack of Shreveport, La. We have six sets of 400's made with his Model 37 and Palma Kleanbore in two days' shooting—two of them with iron sights. One set made by car headlights. We're showing a composite of his 100 yard targets—1000 x 1000.

WILBUR MILLER HEADS NATIONAL IRON SIGHTS LIST

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Wilbur W. Miller, of Saginaw, Mich., who heads the list of America's Smallbore riflemen for 1938, also has highest ranking in iron sights events during the year. Miller shoots a Remington Model 37 Rangemaster rifle and Palma Kleanbore ammunition.

THE .357 S. AND W. MAGNUM

(Continued from page 15)

inches, nine of them in 1.93 inches. The best five-shot handload of the ten tried that day, made 1.85 inches at 100 yards. It was 14.0 grains 2400 and Guy Loverin's hollow-point Bond bullet No. 358677, in large-pocket cases primed with Western rifle primers No. 8½. The next best load was Loverin's Bond bullet No. 358690 and the same powder charge in small-pocket cases and with Western No. 6½ rifle primers. The previous day this rifle had made a 3.7-inch group, with seven in 2.05 inches, as the best performance that day; this time with a different load. It was 15.0 grains of 2400 behind the Bond-Ness bullet and using Western No. 6½ primers.

Two weeks later this load was increased to 15¼ grains of 2400 powder and the 10-shot group measured 3.20 inches. The Western factory load put five in 1.81 inches at 100 yards and five in 5.75 inches at 200 yards that day. Three days later we used the Western No. 8½ primer, Loverin solid and hollow-point bullets and 14.5 grains of 2400. The 10-shot groups ran 3.40 and 3.80 inches at 100 yards. The latter had nine shots in 2.45 inches. Apparently this shortened rifle would average 3¼ minutes spread per ten shots and would do under 3 inches at 100 yards with factory ammunition and with the proper handloads.

We tried the 18¼-inch barrel on the same steel plate with factory ammunition and learned we had lost 20 yards of range for equivalent penetration. The plate was now penetrated at 35 yards instead of at 55 yards and was cleanly perforated at 30 yards as against 50 yards with the 26-inch barrel. Our handload of 15¼ grains of 2400 behind the Bond-Ness bullet penetrated this steel plate at 50 yards and gave clean perforation at 45 yards.

This load had a bore drop of 6¼ inches over 100 yards with a midrange trajectory just over 1½ inches. At 200 yards the drop was 31¾ inches and the trajectory height midway was just under 8 inches. Apparently we were getting close to 1850 f.-s. m.v. in the 18¼-inch barrel. The Western factory load showed nearly 35 inches drop over 200 yards and a midrange trajectory of 8¾ inches. This rifle is practical with factory or handloads for such game as woodchuck up to 120 yards and for deer or black bear up to 150 yards. For longer ranges exact estimation of distances would be required to insure hitting. For point-blank shooting, without any sight allowance for range differentials, woodchucks could be taken up to nearly 100 yards and larger game up to 130 yards, with dependably effective hitting.

As to killing power, we were getting well over 2000 f.-s. in the 26-inch barrel with a 160-grain bullet, and fully 1800 f.-s. in the 18¼-inch barrel with the same bullet. These ballistics compare closely with those of the .351 Self-Loading (180-grain) and the .303 Savage (190-grain) rifle cartridges, except in the matter of bullet weight. However, the .357 Magnum bullet has a greater diameter, a flat nose and solid unjacketed construction, for a greater tissue displacement and lacerating effect. It is, however, inferior in sectional density and in paper energy. According to the tables in Phil Sharpe's book on handloading, the energy of our 160-grain bullet from the .357 Magnum rifle would be 1175 ft.-lbs. from the 18¼-inch barrel, and 1535 ft.-lbs. from the 26-inch barrel. Its sectional density is .176, against .285 for the .303 Savage bullet and .208 for the .351 S-L bullet.

In ballistics at the muzzle these bullets would compare as follows:

Cartridge	Velocity	Energy
.357-160 gr.	1820 f.-s.	1175 ft.-lbs.
.357-160 gr.	2080 f.-s.	1535 ft.-lbs.
.303-190 gr.	1950 f.-s.	1593 ft.-lbs.
.351-180 gr.	1850 f.-s.	1370 ft.-lbs.

In a light, short, handy rifle the .357 Magnum caliber seemingly has the power of the .32-40 High Velocity (165-grain) cartridge, and of the old .38-55 (255-grain). It should be the answer to those occasionally received requests for a low-power handy rifle adapted for short-range game shooting. In such an arm, handloads in the .357 Magnum case, heavier and also lighter than the factory loads, can be used in addition to the standard .38 Special cartridge for different purposes. The .357 Magnum cartridge seems better adapted for the 20-inch rifle than for the 8¾-inch revolver, in which it develops only 75% of its potential power. The heavy handloads which we used in the rifle are still more powerful, and these cannot be used at all in the revolver. In fact, we would not use more than 14¼ grains of 2400 powder in the revolver and do not recommend more than 12½ grains behind the 160-grain bullet, although certain qualified handloaders have risked their revolvers with heavier loads.

In the rifle our heaviest handloads must have reached fully 50,000 pounds pressure to the square inch, and exerted a back thrust on the breech-block some 3,000 pounds less than that of the .30-'06 cartridge at the same pressure. An important difference is that the bottle-neck cartridge has a shoulder abutment against the barrel which tends to emphasize the tearing strain on the action as compared with the straight case, even with the same thrust force. It speaks well for the strength of these simple old rolling-block Remington actions, which were designed for big-bore black-powder cartridges, during the period between 1866 and 1871. Apparently they will safely handle any standard cartridge which has parallel sides and no shoulder.

REVOLVER MECHANISMS

(Continued from page 21)

cams the hammer backward until this extension rests on the top of the rebound slide.

Although not shown in the drawings, a steel block is interposed between the hammer and the frame of the Smith & Wesson when the hammer has reached its rebounded position. This safety block is in the form of a flat spring in the side plate of the revolver, and is attached to the side plate at its lower extremity. An extension on this spring bears against a cam-surface on the back of the hand, so that when the hand is raised, as occurs when the arm is cocked, the spring is pushed sidewise, carrying the safety block out from between the front surface of the hammer and a flat surface on the inside of the frame.

Now let us consider the modern Colt double-action gun; and because in this gun the parts of both the safety block and cylinder-latching mechanism are located on one side of the gun and thus pretty well covered by the hammer and trigger, I have made separate drawings of each, so that their operation may be clearly seen.

In Figure 10 is seen the safety-block mechanism in its "safe" position. The hammer and trigger are shown in their correct positions but are broken away so that the mechanism may be clearly seen. Block "B" rides in a slot in the frame, and in the position shown lies between the front of the hammer and the frame, preventing the hammer from going forward. This block "B" also pro-

duces the rebounding action in the Colt, for in rising as the trigger is allowed to go forward after discharge, it strikes the cam surface "S" on the front of the hammer, and pushes the hammer back from firing position, and then locks it as already explained. This action is clearly shown in Figure 11.

Now consider Figure 12. This drawing is a bit more complicated, but shows all of the parts which have to do with the cylinder-locking mechanism. In Figure 12 the parts are shown in the position they occupy when the hammer is down in the rebounded position. Note the typical Colt spring lever, the pivoted cylinder latch, and the hand with its flat-top hub upon which rests the front end of the spring lever. At "A" will be seen the "ratchet teeth" of the Colt cylinder-latching mechanism—and I'll bet that these are complete strangers to most Colt owners! Out of ten shooters I recently asked, not one knew where the motion of the latch came from in the Colt, or how it worked. Note that one tooth is on the spring lever and the other on the rear end of the latch. Both are peculiar in shape, and they operate in a peculiar manner. If the trigger is pulled backwards to shoot double-action, the hand moves upward. This carries the spring lever up, as the front end of this lever rests upon the hub of the hand. This motion causes the tooth on the spring lever to engage the tooth on the latch, and raise it; and this causes the front end of the latch to move downward out of contact with the cylinder.

Continued motion brings the parts into the position shown in Figure 13. At this point the edges of the two teeth can slip past each other, and the latch snaps upward because of the spring under its front end (as shown in Figure 12), and rides on the surface of the cylinder until the next notch comes along. Note in Figure 13 that the top of the trigger is in contact with the "fly" on the hammer, as we are considering operation of the revolver double-action.

Now let us suppose that the hammer has reached full cock, and is released. Finger pressure on the trigger will be released also, and the spring lever will swing downward, pushing the trigger forward. This, of course, brings the rebound mechanism into action, as already explained, and also causes the hand to drop downward, so that it will be ready to engage another tooth on the cylinder ratchet. It must also reset the cylinder-latch operating teeth to the position shown in "A" in Figure 12, and do this without unlocking the latch from the cylinder. Figure 14 shows what happens. The tooth on the latch strikes the tooth on the spring lever as shown, but as both are on solid parts, neither can move forward or backward; so in the Colt the latch is made thin and springy, and it simply bends sideways and lets the tooth on the spring lever slip past it. Actually it is the same mechanism as is used in the H.&R. and S.&W., only worked out in a different manner. And I'll bet few mechanics have run onto this particular form of ratchet mechanism.

In Figure 15 the parts are shown at full cock for single-action shooting. Note that the trigger-point is now engaged in the hammer notch instead of working on the "fly", as in double-action.

A consideration of any of these drawings will show that in a revolver there is very little leeway in the operating parts. In fact, I think we should give our handgun manufacturers a lot of credit for producing in such a complicated mechanism one that works with so little trouble. I suggest a study of the different mechanisms shown before any attempt at stoning is made; in fact, my recommendation would be to let the factory that built the gun do all the adjusting.

LEVER-ACTION RIFLES

(Continued from page 26)

for rather mediocre accuracy with high power cartridges. Winchester always had trouble in getting these rifles to come up to their accuracy requirement of shooting into 8 inches at 200 yards.

On May 16, 1895, Winchester adapted their Model 1894 rifle to use the .30-30-160 high power smokeless cartridge. The muzzle velocity was 1960 f.s., as compared with 1,530 f.s. for the highest of the black powder cartridges. This celebrated ".30-30 Winchester" instantly took the country by storm. Within about two years about 90 per cent of our hunters had discarded their black powder rifles for it. It is very interesting to read the comments on the .30-30 in the sporting press of those days. Dozens and dozens of really experienced hunters came out in print and declared it was lighter, handier, more accurate, much longer ranged, and a far better killer than their old charcoal burners. There was scarcely a dissenting vote. Since then the .30-30 has easily been the most popular deer cartridge in America, and even today it is more used for deer than any other cartridge. Considerably over a million of all makes of rifles for the .30-30 cartridge have been sold in America. It is the fashion these days to malign the .30-30, but it is difficult to ignore its record and history as well as its present continued popularity. It has been and still is a fine deer cartridge.

The .30-30 was followed by many other cartridges of its class, with most of which I am sure my readers are very familiar, so I will only dwell on one or two of them briefly. The .32 Winchester Special is so like the .30-30 that one might shoot rifles for the two cartridges alternately for a lifetime without being able to tell that there was any difference in the accuracy, trajectory, and killing power of the two. The .32 Special was brought out solely "to fill the demand for a high power cartridge that could be reloaded with black powder and lead bullets." (In those days it was believed impossible to reload with smokeless powder.) The first .32 Special rifles all had rear sights that were graduated for both smokeless and black powder.

There has always been a tendency for some make and caliber of rifle to become very popular in certain localities. A case of this kind came to my intimate knowledge with respect to the .303 Savage Model 1899 rifle. In that year a sportsman from Philadelphia brought one of these rifles out to Lillooet, British Columbia, and after his hunt was over he gave it to his guide, William G. C. Manson. In the next year with that rifle Manson killed eighteen head of big game, including two grizzly bears, with one box of 20 cartridges. The reputation of this rifle and cartridge spread through the country so that when I hunted in that Province in 1900 everyone was disposing of their old rifles and getting .303 Savages. And when I visited in British Columbia in later years I found its popularity unabated. The .303 fired a longer and heavier bullet than the .30-30 and was a little better killer on game larger than deer. Since those days the .30-30 has been boosted up from a 160-grain bullet at M.V. 1,960 f.s., to a 170-grain bullet at 2,200 f.s., but it has not been possible to increase the muzzle velocity of the .303 much because of the capacity of its case and the weight of its bullet (190 grains).

The heaviest cartridge adapted to any lever-action rifle was the .405 Winchester which was used in the Model 1895 rifle, no longer made. It was a wonderful killer, although its sure hitting range did not exceed 200 yards because of its accuracy and curved trajectory. It was the favorite lion cartridge of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in Africa, and Stewart Edward White also used it on lions on his first

two trips to that continent, although he later came to prefer the Western .30-'06 cartridge with 220-grain soft point bullet for these beasts. I think that it may be said that the .405 has been our surest moose cartridge, and also for Alaskan brown bear in the southern part of their range. Due to its curved trajectory it would not be a good cartridge for brown bear in Northern and Western Alaska where the bear country is very open and many shots have to be taken at quite long ranges.

Space forbids my dwelling on the more modern cartridges for lever-action rifles, the .218 Bee, .250-3000 and .300 Savage, and the .348 Winchester. Mr. Ness has lately covered these cartridges quite fully in the Dope Bag Department, and there is little additional that I could say. Of course, as might be expected, they are better in every way for the purpose for which they are intended than the older cartridges, and those getting new lever-action rifles should choose one of these newer cartridges. But for those who still have fine rifles for the older cartridges I can see no good reason for swapping horses if the old one is still sound, for it will still continue to do the same reliable work it has in the past.

HOME GUNSMITHING

(Continued from page 29)

end), and slip a rubber cork over the end I am holding in my hand. Some checkers prefer a single-end tool, fitted with a light file handle. I have always found the heavier and longer tools more awkward and harder to control than the light, medium-length tools.

After the teeth are cut in this checking tool, pass a fine file lightly over the edges, to bring all the teeth to the same length; then heat the toothed end to a cherry red, and plunge into brine made by dissolving salt in water. Do not heat any more of the tool than necessary, as this brine-hardening makes the steel very brittle; and if you harden the shank, a little too much pressure will snap it off—and you can then go to work and make another tool.

The easiest tool to make for laying out your checking in parallel grooves is one made from an umbrella rib. These ribs are good tool steel, and you will have to soften them by heating before bending to shape. Heat to a low red, and allow to cool in the air. You can then bend the rib to shape by curving one end slightly (with the open side on the *outside* of the bend). Holding it in a vise with the open side upward, take a three-square Swiss-type file and sharpen the inner edges, thus straightening them up; then cut teeth on both the outer edges, sloping the teeth backward from the edge toward the top, using the three-square file and holding the edge sloped about 45 degrees toward the front. Cut the teeth as close together as possible, and after they are cut, file a slight slope outward on the bottom or open edges, so that each edge is vee-shaped. Squeeze the opening of the tool together in the vise until it is the proper width to space the checking as you desire, trying it on scrap pieces of wood and measuring the spaces carefully. It can be widened and narrowed the last small amount by filing on either the inside or the outside, if you cannot get it exact in the vise.

After these teeth are cut, heat the teeth to a cherry red and plunge into brine to harden. A small file handle or other piece of wood may be fitted to the other end; or, if you desire two markers of different widths, the tool may be made double-ended, and a rubber cork slipped over one end as a hand-protector.

A third tool used to bring the teeth up to sharp points is made from a three-square No. 0 Swiss-type file of about 5" length. The sharp point is broken off this file, back to

a point where the end is blunt enough to fill the grooves of the checking you are doing, and about half an inch or a little more of the end is then heated to a red heat and the file pressed against a piece of brass to bend the end to about the same angle as that to which the checking tools are bent. If you do not have a torch that can be kept turned on the point of the file while bending it to keep it hot, you will very likely have to heat the file two or three times to get the proper bend. If you have a tank of Prest-O-Light gas, and a torch, you can heat the file with this without protecting the teeth, as in this flame the steel will not oxidize; but if you use a gasoline torch, an illuminating-gas flame, or a forge fire, the teeth of the file must be protected with a file-hardening compound to prevent scaling.

The formula for the file-hardening compound is as follows:

Pulverized charred leather.....	1	part (by weight)
Fine family flour.....	1 1/2	parts " "
Fine table salt.....	2	parts " "

The leather charcoal should be ground very fine, and put through a No. 45 sieve. Mix the ingredients dry, add water slowly to form a stiff paste and prevent lumps, then add more water until the mixture is of the consistency of varnish.

Spread this mixture, in a thin, even coat, on the part of the file to be heated, using a small brush, and allow it to dry for a day; then heat the file red-hot, and bend it, using more than one heat if necessary. After it has cooled, coat it again with the compound and allow it to dry for a day, then heat red-hot again, and plunge into water to reharden for use, after which brush the teeth clean of the hardening compound.

A TINKERER'S KINKS

(Continued from page 30)

ever been seen in that vicinity. It is particularly noted for the fact that Amos can get any old box of Long Rifle, and of practically any make, and win matches with it. This particular barrel will come nearer shooting every sort of ammunition than any other barrel we've ever seen here. However, Amos managed to get a patch hung in his rifle, and in getting it out, chipped one of the lands, just as you would chip a piece of steel with a cold chisel, leaving a lump of steel projecting out into the barrel. This apparently is about the same position as the upper sling swivel. And yet Amos was doing some darned good shooting with it at 50 yards!

Strangely enough, he tells me that a bullet driven through this barrel, with the chip of steel projecting, does not show any mark from the chip when it comes out at the muzzle.

* * *

It goes without saying that on any .22 cleaning rod the knob on the tip should be of slightly smaller diameter than the body of the rod itself, so that when the rod goes out at the muzzle and is pulled back, the tip will not touch the muzzle. Also, all sharp corners and projections which could possibly catch on either the muzzle or the breech of the barrel, or at the ends of the lands at the front end of the chamber, should be very carefully polished down, even though the tip doesn't hold the patch quite as well.

* * *

Frank Bryson showed me a very good trick in using patches which were slightly too small for the bore. These were square patches, and you merely folded one corner down so that the tip of the rod touched a double thickness, and the cotton flannel was double on approximately two-thirds of the circumference.

OVER THE NEWS DESK

SMALL BORE RANKINGS AGAIN

Following publication of the top 100 small bore shooters of 1938 (now amended to include Thurman Randle as 16th, with a percentage rating of .8500), here are the high 20 as based only on their performance with iron sights. This list should be of interest to those pointing toward International team participation as well as to any shooters who use only metallic sights.

1. Miller, Wilbur, Saginaw, Mich.	.9687
2. Bartlett, Mrs. L. P., San Antonio, Texas	.9500
3. Schweitzer, Wm. P., Hillside, N. J.	.9436
4. Patriquin, Wm., Ernest, Penna.	.9176
5. Woodring, W. B., Alton, Ill.	.9058
6. Moor, E. N., Jr., Detroit, Mich.	.9034
7. Bobgardner, G. Paul, Palmyra, Penna.	.8989
8. Triggs, R. D., Madison, N. J.	.8981
9. Berkheiser, R. D., Hopewell, Penna.	.8827
10. Hamby, Charles G., Atlanta, Ga.	.8818
11. Allyn, Harold D., Springfield, Mass.	.8771
12. Hamley, E. C., Jr., Glendale, Calif.	.8766
13. Menzen, Erwin P., Atlanta, Ga.	.8723
14. Johansen, Fred, Joliet, Ill.	.8718
15. Brown, Edwards, Alton, Ill.	.8716
16. Canfield, V. Z., Mogadore, Ohio	.8705
17. Pope, R. C., Dallas, Texas	.8687
18. Wark, John R., Buffalo, N. Y.	.8675
19. Lord, E. L., Chicago, Ill.	.8669
20. Rowell, Geo. B., Bell, Calif.	.8609

FIDAC SCORES

From Paris, via Bill Woolrey, American Legion Shooting Director, have come the final and complete scores of the FIDAC match, the American part of which was fired at Camp Perry last Fall. The four teams reporting scores are:

American Legion team	Team total: 1964
British Legion team	Team total: 1962
Canadian Legion Team	Team total: 1878
Belgian Legion Team	Team total: 1835

BRITISH LEGION TEAM

Captain: W. J. Artis
Team Coach: P. G. Richardson

TEAM

K. Clark	198
G. F. Clyne	198
F. A. Foxon	196
W. V. Knight	195
G. Langdon	193
J. Lomax	193
J. D. Nichol	197
E. A. Rudsey-Dawson	198
A. Traies	197
T. Walker	197

Team Total 1962

Alternates: G. Barnes, D. W. Foster, A. Johnson, W. McCloud, and D. P. Tilling.

AMERICAN LEGION TEAM

Captain: Charles L. Woodward
Team Coach: Ollie M. Schriver

TEAM

Byron Putman	199
Lester A. Pope	199
C. F. Rider	198
W. J. Summerall	197
C. H. Berlin	197
Thurman Randle	197
A. J. Yearsley	197
John Miller	196
Ray Loudon	193
Walter Oakley	191

Team Total 1964

Alternates: Russell Gardner and James Lacy.

As we go to press . . .

Edward C. Cooke, Meriden, Conn., N. R. A. Executive Committee member, Secretary of the Conn. State Association. Died February 14.

Lt. Col. Fred M. West, Portland, Oregon. Portland police commissioner. Died January 10.

Captain Elmer C. Croom, Okmulgee, Okla. Oklahoma National Guard.

The latter two were former N. R. A. Directors and old time coaches and team captains of Camp Perry National Guard teams.

D.C.M. NOTE

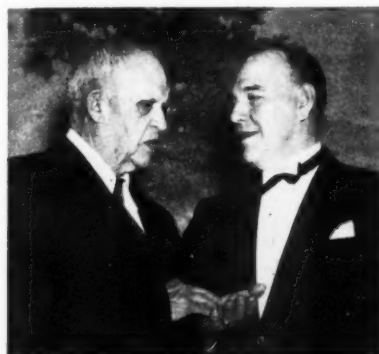
The following publications are available for sale, at prices quoted, either through the office of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, War Department, Room 1915 Navy Bldg., Washington, D. C., or from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.:

Individual Score Book for the Rifle, per copy (W.D.A.G.O. Form 82)	\$0.15
Individual Score Book for the Rifle, Special Edition for CMTC, per copy (Text identical with that above mentioned, but does not contain as many score recording sheets.)	.10
Basic Field Manual, Volume III, Part One, Chapter 1 (Rifle Marksmanship), per copy	.15
Basic Field Manual, Volume III, Part One, Chapter 3 (Automatic Pistol Marksmanship) copy	.10
Technical Regulations, No. 1340-B, per copy (Construction of Small-Bore Target Ranges)	.05
Technical Regulations, No. 1300-22A, per copy (U. S. Rifle Cal. .22, M1922, M1 and M2)	.10
Training Regulations, #320-10, per copy (U. S. Rifle, Cal. .30, M1903)	.10

RAIL-UTILITY POSTAL MATCHES

The special Rail-Rifle and Utility-Rifle postal events programmed in the February issue of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN were listed without specific reference to the type of sighting equipment eligible. In all four of the matches, iron sights only may be used.

At the annual NRA dinner: General Critchfield, grand old man of Camp Perry, caught in characteristic pose with Senator Lundeen of Minnesota.



TIMED FIRE with Bill Shadel

Commendation: "When he was not busy filling prescriptions, Charles V. Woodruff, 36-year-old Roxborough druggist, used to practice target shooting in the basement of his home. A year has passed since he last fired his .32 caliber pistol, but when three holdup men invaded his store Woodruff discovered he hadn't lost his aim. Woodruff beat one of the armed men to the draw. He fired just once. The bullet struck the man below the left eye."—*The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.*

Condemnation: "Bolts Open." It sounds mighty, mighty bad to hear of a self-styled instructor in a midwest girl's school who left two or three rifles in the back of his car after a session at the range. His dad, about to use the car, had another son carry the rifles into the house, where they were stacked against the wall. Shortly a playful youngster picked one of them out, aimed it at a playmate, pulled the trigger and a young life was snuffed out. Criticism can only be directed to the one source. What was an instructor of rifle shooting doing with a loaded gun in the car? Let's keep reminding 'em that "every gun is loaded." "Bolts open or out you go."

We don't intend getting into the argument of prone vs. position shooting, but picked up this interesting analysis of the postal Free Rifle Off-Hand match which might indicate centers of interest. Pennsylvania entrants led with sixteen, New York second with 15, Wisconsin third with nine; Minnesota, Kansas and Iowa are tied with five each. California and Idaho each have four. A total of 89 as compared with 192 in the prone match of the previous month.

This month and next, our Junior riflemen and our collegiate shooters share the sports limelight with the senior events. The Kemper Military Academy's midwest "indoor Camp Perry" at Booneville, Mo., on March 10 and 11 is the big attraction along the Mississippi. Around the Chicago area, the Morgan Park Military Academy fourth annual tournament, April 7-8, will attract close to 200 junior marksmen. The N.R.A. Junior postal matches closing April 1 now include over 200 teams. The high team for each state is to compete for the national title, and it's a red-hot race for honors.

Dropping in at the Postal match office, where the scoring of targets already stacked to the ceiling is going on, found team possibles in the first two matches of the Junior bi-weeklies chalked up for the Munhall, Pa., team again. Out of the squad of ten firing each week, seven are girls. Educators, please note—"all seven of these girls, (Seniors this year) are members of the National Honor Society. Maybe if some of us were a little smarter, we would do better at our shootin'!"—the quotes are Ted Charlton's, team coach.

For the collegiates five regional tournaments have been set up, with a possibility of a sixth. Alabama, Kansas State and the Coast Guard Academy will be hosts to teams of their respective sections on March 25 and the following week the Naval Academy, the University of Illinois and possibly California will entertain regional champion hopefuls. From these six tournaments, the national championship will be decided. Individual team members will not only have team responsibility but many of them will be pointing toward the coveted All-American selection and the Golden Bullet award.

—so they tell us:

HOMEWORK

SIRS:

There's only one serious fault with *THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN*—I can't get a damn thing done around the house until I've read it from cover to cover.

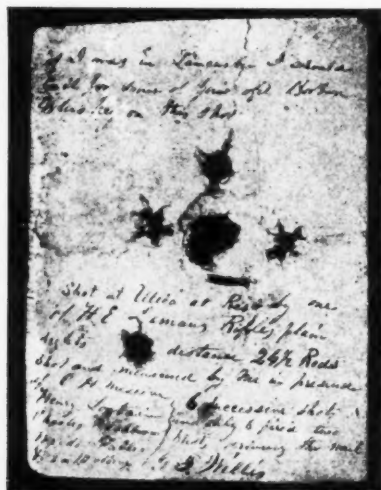
Ottumwa, Iowa

GAROLD K. TULLIS.

MUZZLE LOADER ACCURACY

SIRS:

I recently ran across an unusual target made a good many years ago by G. F. Willis, with a Henry Leman muzzle-loading rifle. It was shot at 24½ rods (134 yards) and witnessed. It is in the possession of James E. Leman of Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Mr. Leman, who is the son of Henry Leman, famed riflemaker of Lancaster,



6 Shots—134 Yards

loaned me the original, from which I had a photostatic copy made.

New York, N. Y.

FORRY R. GETZ.

● On the back of the card (see illustration) is the note: "Shot at Utica at rest by one of H. E. Leman's Rifles plain sights distance 24½ rods. Shot and measured by me in presence of C. H. Mescrin (?), Henry Fontaine, Charles Washburn, Waldo Fuller & 8 or 10 others. 6 Successive shots and only 6 fired two shots driving the nail. G. F. Willis." Above the group, which measures 1 and 11/16 inches, is: "if I was in Lancaster I should call for some of your old Bourbon Whiskey on this shot."—Ed.

THE POSITION ARGUMENT

SIRS:

The article in the February issue of the *RIFLEMAN* by Mr. E. H. Wallace adequately expresses my views on positions in rifle shooting. Prone shooting alone soon grows monotonous. I, and a lot of others I know, are not anxious to chip in entry fees to prone shooting alone. We wish to attend some matches that have the thrill of at least three positions—prone, sitting and off-hand.

I say hurrah for the three position matches.

Alum Ridge, Virginia

H. A. WADE.

SIRS:

Three cheers for E. H. Wallace and his Heresy! Though it will be sometime before my graduation from the prone "kindergarten", I am already looking forward eagerly to the variety of the "upper grades".

As for J. McNabovitch, "methinks the gentleman protests too much". Isn't he a little

too much on the defensive? Nobody wants to rob him of his pet. Doesn't every target shooter get a lot of kick out of shooting prone? Sure! But a good many of us enjoy the increasing difficulties of four position. We don't want to detract from the prone game. We only want a few more opportunities to exercise our various abilities in match competition.

Dos Palos, Calif.

ED LEWIS.

● One of the oldest and least likely to be settled questions of the shooting game is the prone vs. three- or four-position argument. Thus far, a very small minority, making a lot of noise, has championed the introduction of positions into our major outdoor registered shoots. Whether this minority feeling will grow enough that such matches will be included, time alone will tell. Thus far, a few have been tried at various regional shoots. They attract a lot of attention, everybody has a good time watching them, but the entries are seldom enough to justify their inclusion on the program. It seems to us that position shooting on the indoor range, where it lends added difficulty to a course lacking wind and light problems, is much to be desired; on the outdoor range, added to those conditions, too much.—Ed.

"ISM"

SIRS:

I think your editorial in the February *RIFLEMAN* entitled "Is" was very good. It might be worth-while for some members of Congress to read it slowly and think hard.

Too many young Americans take their freedom without much thought of what it cost. That I think is the fault of the way they are taught. In the old one room building on the coast of Maine where I went to school their methods of teaching scientific things weren't so hot but they could certainly teach Americanism. Of course American history was more real there as most of us were descended from people who came to Maine before the Revolution. That didn't make us any better than the people who came later, but we had a little better idea of the cost of setting up this form of government.

Of course it may be that a person does not value the things he does not have to fight for and life has been too easy here, but I hope not.

Shrub Oak, N. Y.

MAURICE SELLERS.

CONSERVATION THEORY

SIRS:

Brudge Kyle (so they tell us; January *RIFLEMAN*) asks a question: What about the man who is interested in rifle shooting from the game standpoint? He stresses the fact that he sees no legislation on the automatic rifle or the telescopic sight, and remarks that the real sportsman looks for sport and not for an easier way to destroy his game, also that you can buy meat a damn sight cheaper than you can hunt it. To his first question I would say: When used for killing game, and surely you would not shoot unless you expected to kill, that our modern arms, equipped with telescopic sights, are far more efficient than the older models, using iron sights, and contribute much toward conserving the game in the respect that they enable a more accurate vital aim which naturally will result in fewer cripples. Regardless of whether the sportsman is hunting for sport or meat, he expects a kill, or otherwise he would carry no gun at all. As for more laws governing the use of our firearms, we certainly have too many now. Rather, we need fewer. Our Federal and state game laws provide what is considered a fair and just bag limit for the various species of game, and anyone who would violate these laws would do so regardless of what type arm he was using. When it comes to the matter of sport with firearms for the individual, if he can't choose those which suit his individual ideas, then it ceases to be a sport.

Clarksburg, West Virginia.

F. L. SMITH.

SIRS:

Mr. Tedmon's article "There Is a Limit" describes a condition that may ruin all hunting in America. It is ironical that as game grows scarcer hunting equipment becomes more and more deadly. The magnum repeating rifle, automobiles and good roads into every corner of the country have changed hunting from a sport into a bloody picnic for the alleged sportsman who gets out into the open once a year to go primitive with hired guides, organized hunts, trained game, comfortable camps and plenty to drink. Fortunately quite a few of the brethren shoot themselves or each other, but they also plug guides natives, horses, cows, sheep, does, fawns and other people's dogs. It has become a huge business fostered by a dozen so-called sportsman's magazines that are full of pictures of dead deer, dead bear, dead antelope, dead moose, dead fish, dead birds and dead everything, with articles telling in clinical detail exactly how each killing was achieved. One thrilling account of how some brave adventurers rode out in a car to shoot a specified number of a herd of tame buffalo made me sick.

It is probably impractical, but it would help the sport of hunting immensely if it could be restricted to single shot weapons only. This would eliminate most blasting away at crazy ranges and at "something moving in the bushes." Anyone who can't get his game with a single shot rifle isn't fit to call himself a sportsman anyway, but a lot of people would have to learn to stalk and shoot and to identify game. If they did it might help make hunting a sport again.

A contributing factor to the bing-bing-bing school of hunting is that every year many thousands of boys are turned loose with repeating .22's to pop away promiscuously at everything they see without learning to shoot. The N.R.A. does much to help this condition but there are too many boys who follow their own carefree instincts and become the next generation of bad shots and poor sportsmen.

Coconut Grove, Florida. PAUL ST.-GAUDENS.

● Each in their own way, readers Smith and St.-Gaudens' letters offer food for thought. Restricting American big-game hunting to single shot rifles would be impractical, as suggested. Nor can we see, beyond the possible outlawing or curtailing of semi-automatic rifles, any merit in the passing of further laws against specific types of firearms. Even this would be of questionable value.

It seems to us that the answer lies not in restricting the type of arm that may be used in the game field, but rather in bringing about a general appreciation of how any arm should be used. What we can do, if we are willing to look far enough into the future, is to broaden our program of youth instruction, instill into the young minds of the rising generation a healthy appreciation of our dwindling game supply and how not to use it. The old dogs, in this case those of our own generation whose carelessness endangers the future of American big-game hunting, probably cannot be taught new tricks, but the youngsters can, if we will help.—Ed.

TO END ALL ALIBIS

SIRS:

I believe this alibi is so good that you might like to publish it for the benefit of some of the readers. They may have occasion to use it sometime.

The scene: A filling station near Fredericksburg, Texas.

An Enthusiastic Deer Hunter: "I knocked down two bucks yesterday, an 8-pointer and a 12-pointer, but they both jumped up and ran off."

Station Attendant: "What was the matter? Why didn't you get them?"

E. D. H.: "Well, you see, it was like this. I was shooting a brand new gun and I didn't know until now—but it's an absolute fact—before hunting with a new gun you must shoot about 20 shots through it to develop the killing power."

Houston, Texas

J. V. ELLIS.

Tournament Reviews

NIAGARA FRONTIER SMALL BORE

Under the able direction of Chet Bickers and his expert staff of assistants the fourth annual Niagara Frontier Indoor Rifle Matches were run off in their usual flawless manner, even though it was necessary to accommodate more shooters than the record number of 1938 entries. It may be necessary next year to definitely limit these popular matches to not over 200 competitors.

Larry Wilkens, the young veteran from Ohio, came back to the wars after several years' absence from active competition to establish the phenomenal new record of 120 consecutive shots at 100 yards for a 1200x1200—86x. Of these shots, 80 were with scope and 40 with iron sights. In spite of this phenomenal shooting he barely beat out Chet Bickers for the William J. Wark Memorial Scope Aggregate with an 800—63x over Bickers' 800—53x.

Buffalonian Jack Wark successfully defended his last year's championship rating in the Iron Sight Aggregate by out-xing his fellow townsman, C. Barnum, to win with a 794—51x against Barnum's 794—45x. F. R. Naish of Niagara Falls trailed with a 794—44x.

Mrs. Melba Berry of Niagara Falls continued her fine shooting of last year to outrank Barnum, both with 200—12x in the 20 shot Iron Sight Match, in which ruddy-cheeked young G. Boa of Canada, son of an illustrious marksman of international fame, finished third with an 8x possible. Mrs. Berry also annexed the Ladies Match with a 199—13x, Mrs. L. D. Wallace pressing her closely with 199—11x.

Roy Schwarz of the Ned Moor-conducted Michigan contingent outranked twelve other 200 possibles with 18x's to win the 20-shot Any Sight Match. One of his targets, a 10x possible, was one of those groups we all dream about!

C. A. Nicklas and R. A. Reck, both of Bradford, Pa., put together 14x and 16x possibles to win the Scope Doubles Match. Naish and F. Schilling won the Iron Sight Doubles Match with 200—11x and 198—19x for a team total of 398—21x.

Real drama developed in the Five-Man Team Match. The McKean County, Pa., contingent, headed by the venerable raconteur "Doc" McLean, entered two teams and in keeping with the usual custom the second team out-shot the number one team to finish only one down for a 999x1000—61x. Only one team, still firing, had any chance to even tie this fine score, the Irvine Club with a lady shooting as anchor "man." Faced with the necessity of shooting a perfect score to either tie or outrank, Mrs. R. J. Lacy calmly laid down on the line and with over a hundred pop-eyed shooters spotting every shot, drilled them all in for a 12x possible, cinching the match for her team with a 999-68x.

No sooner had Mrs. Lacy finished her fine performance than all scopes were swung over to another target, the 10 ring of which was being methodically punctured by thirteen-year-old "Junior" Blakeslee of Lewis Run, Pa., who had never fired a single shot at targets until last October, according to his genial "Pappy," the well-known George Blakeslee. Junior had already scored the only 200 possible made on the McKean County No. 1 team. "Buck fever" had beaten him out of a possible in one of the other matches, by dropping the last shot and Junior was so disgusted at this performance that he had solemnly vowed to go clean on his next string. He did—for a 400x400—24x, in the 40-shot Scope Sight Match! Some tyro!

WEST COAST METALLIC SIGHT TOURNAMENT

The Southern California Small Bore League held its First Annual All Metallic Sight tourney on the range of the Glendale Rifle and Revolver Club on Sunday, January 15. Officers and members of the League were extremely gratified in seeing not less than eight new faces in the fifty-one competitors who turned out for the match. All of these new shooters were entered in the Tyro class, and gave a good account of themselves over the entire course of fire. In one case,

Russel Cole, attending his first registered match, placed well near the top in all three events, winning a class "B" award.

The first match of the day, the 50-Meter, saw a cold gusty condition, with extremely clear skies. The entire day was cold and windy. Wally Robbins of Glendale captured the 50-Meter event with a score of 395, creedmooring Tom Dunlap's 395. The 50-Yard Match went to E. F. Knowles, score 399—22x, Bering Monroe ranking second with a score of 397—26x, which creedmoored Miller's 397—26x.

Miller captured the 100-Yard event with a 395—20x, Ed Craven placed second, score 393—12x, and L. A. Pope third with 393—10x. The Two-Man Team event was won by the doubles team of Monroe and George Rowell, score 398—20x. J. O. Miller of Los Angeles, 1938 State champ, ran true to form and captured the aggregate and the DeBoer-Marcckmann Trophy, nosing out L. A. Pope, also of Los Angeles, by two points. Going into the final match, the 100-Yard, Miller, Pope, Ed Craven, Wally Robbins and Ed Knowles of Santa Barbara, were running neck and neck, Miller's 100-Yard victory deciding the issue. The match called for twenty shots per man at 100 yards. Final tabulations showed Miller first in the aggregate with a total of 1185, Pope 1183, Craven, 1182, Robbins 1181, and Knowles 1181.

Judging from the turnout for this all Iron-Sight Match, the League will in the very near future sponsor another of the same type, but of restricted classification. Much interest was shown on the part of beginners, many of whom did not compete but expressed their regrets that they had not come prepared to enter the competition.—W. L. ROBBINS.

NON-REGISTERED EVENTS

PENNSYLVANIA—The Middle Atlantic Rifle League, with activities centered at West Chester, Pennsylvania, has been staging a series of indoor events, with eight member clubs competing. The initial series of seven four-position matches went to the Marksmans' Club of Wilmington, Delaware. An end-of-season banquet, when prizes will be awarded, is expected to draw more than 100 of the individuals competing. The West Chester Rifle and Pistol Club, kinspin organization of the league, has just completed a successful first year, with about 65 members on its rolls.

NEW YORK—The Westchester Revolver League (Westchester County) has organized a Police Division, in which fourteen teams already have entered the weekly matches. This is their first attempt to conduct a division expressly for police, and the venture seems already a success, with plans going ahead for a series of police outdoor matches under its supervision for next summer's calendar. At the end of the matches in April a dinner will be held as a windup of the schedule, when prizes will be awarded the winners.

FLORIDA—Small Bore Interclub. Sunday, January 22, found the rifle clubs of Florida at the small bore range of the Winter Haven Rifle Club for the Third Annual Small Bore Interclub Team Matches. Six teams of four men put aside all friendship and battled for the first place and the beautiful American Legion Trophy. The match called for 10 shots per team member at 50, 100 and 200 yards, metallic sights. The Sunshine Rifle Club Team from St. Petersburg, Florida, took the lead from the start and held it through the match, finishing with a fine score of 1169 x 1200. Second place went to the Winter Haven Rifle Club team who outranked the Clearwater Rifle Club at the 200 yard range with a score of 1158.

The Individual Dewar gave the fellows several bad minutes as the shifting mirage brought many a groan from the line. First place went to L. W. Abrams of Clearwater Rifle Club with 397 x 400; second to Kenneth Recker of Winter Haven with 396; third to N. R. Cocking with 396.

NEW JERSEY—The Swiss Rifle Association's annual indoor President's Match, staged on their Union City range, was fired

January 8, when most of the New York, Connecticut and New Jersey small bore sharks showed up to compete for the "man-size" prizes offered. Rance Triggs, who seems to spend all of his time wandering around the Eastern States hunting up shootin' matches, walked off with first place by dropping only one point out of the 500 possible. A separate iron sights classification went to Bill Schweitzer's 495. There was plenty of competition, with the familiar names of Carlson, Lacy, Moore, Lippencott and a lot of others showing farther down on the prize lists. All of the firing was at 50-yards, indoors, on the 50-meter 2-bull International target.

PENNSYLVANIA—The Bear Rock Rifle Clubs, popular shooting group of Allentown, staged, early in January, a postal match against the British City of Birmingham Rifle Club, in which the Pennsylvanians topped the Britishers by seven points. Fifteen-man teams fired the 20-shot per man event, which was conducted on the home ranges of the competing groups on the nights of January 3 and 4.

This, incidentally, marks the 31st victory for the Bear Rock shooters in 32 indoor events fired during the past four years. With this first International postal match successfully completed, the Pennsylvania group contemplates a series of similar matches with various English rifle club teams.

OHIO—The Anthony Wayne Matches, sponsored by the Toledo Blade and the Toledo Rifle and Pistol Club, got under way Saturday, January 14, with few shooters present and very adverse weather conditions. When the entries closed Detroit and Cleveland were the only towns at any distance represented.

L. A. Wilkens of Cleveland almost made a clean-up, winning the Iron Sight, Off-Hand Aggregate and Schuetzen Matches. Burtcher of Toledo won the Three-Position Any Sight Match with a nice 290. In the Fort Meigs Iron Sight Match, Wilkens had a run of 70 straight tens, quitting to drive home before morning. Burtcher of Toledo was second high winner, with Moser and Trezise of Detroit, Benton of Upper Sandusky, Klinkel, Dority, Blair and Trowbridge of Toledo taking either cash or merchandise prizes home. In all, twenty-five merchandise and twenty-three cash prizes were awarded.

MEXICO—First 1939 International Event. Along in December 1938 the Alamo-gordo, New Mexico, Rifle Club received a most courteous letter from the Tiradores del Norte Rifle Club of Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, inviting them to a rifle match to be fired January 22, 1938. The Alamo-gordo Club accepted the invitation and immediate negotiations were initiated for the course of fire and for permits for rifles and ammunition to cross the border. The Tiradores del Nortans assisted by appointing a committee to render all possible assistance. How well the committee functioned is shown by the fact that not over five minutes delay was occasioned in crossing the border with all rifles, ammunition and shooting equipment and the American officials were equally efficient upon the return trip.

As the lead-off event, the shooters faced the targets for a 200 meter offhand match. At its conclusion the Mexican team had a lead of seven points and time was taken out for lunch. The 500 meter event brought out some fine shooting but gusty wind and sudden light changes prevented possibles, although two 49's were registered by the Mexican team. Conditions were most trying at 500 meters, as shooters had to face directly into the sun. Despite the sun, the Mexican team kept up their fine shooting and added nine more points to their lead, the final team scores being: Tiradores del Norte, 449; Alamo-gordo Rifle Club, 433.

Roy Smith of El Paso, Texas, was the high individual, winning a hand-carved solid gold medal with his score of 94 x 100. Smith also won silver medals for high scores in the 200 and 500 meter matches. Senor G. Vargas won the medal for the second high aggregate. Incidentally, Senor Vargas is the top ranking amateur bull fighter of Mexico, so the "bull" is no novelty to him. Senor Jose Andrade was second

(Continued on page 43)

Coming Events

THE "WINTER CIRCUIT" FOR THE SMALL-BORE BUGS

Voyagers from the North to the National Mid-Winter Matches at St. Petersburg, Florida, March 8th to 12th inclusive, will have an opportunity this year to break the journey into easy stages and get in some "warm-up" matches under stiff competition at Atlanta, Georgia, on the 4th and 5th of March.

The Chattahoochee Rifle and Pistol Club has arranged their program so as to appeal especially to those shooters who are traveling south to St. Pete. Those matches fired on Saturday, the 4th, will not figure in the Championship Aggregate, so shooters who can not get to Atlanta until Sunday morning, the 5th, will be able to participate in the aggregate as well as several individual matches.

Those who have attended St. Pete in previous years know that it really costs very little, for living expenses are surprisingly reasonable. It is easily possible to pay all expenses and even make a bit of extra money if a shooter "gets hot" in just one or two matches, for the cash prize schedule is unusually liberal. The Chamber of Commerce of St. Petersburg this year has donated \$500.00 to be distributed as cash prizes in various events. First prize in the aggregate alone is worth \$50.00. And the program for Atlanta promises to return 50% of all entry fees for the first four prizes.

Write to C. L. Jackson, 67 Luckie Street, Atlanta, Ga., and T. F. (Mike) Bridgland, 225 Fourth Street, North, St. Petersburg, Fla., for programs and complete information.

Please note the correct dates for St. Petersburg are March 8th to 12th inclusive.

THE FLORIDA PISTOL MATCHES

A final reminder about those two pistol shoots: If the wife will let you sneak away for a while in March, the thing to do is to take in both the Miami and Tampa meets. The dates have been arranged so that the two do not conflict, and you have a couple of days in between to make the trip up to Tampa after the Flamingo shoot. The dates are March 7-11 at Coral Gables (Miami) and March 14-18 at Tampa. And . . . if you can't run out on the better half, why not take her along. The thought of a vacation in Florida ought to make it all right about that fur coat she wanted.

To abandon the facetious mood, the twin tournaments really offer about the last word in a get-away-from-the-job trip for the pistol shooters. There'll be ample time for sightseeing, swimming, golfing and all of the thousand-and-one diversions that Florida offers, without having to steal time away from the range when the matches are on. And not to be forgotten are the entertainments that Smitty Brown arranges as an annual feature down there. So, for once, why not blow off the lid, put the job on ice, and get down there and enjoy yourself.

HEART OF AMERICA PISTOL MATCHES

For Midwestern shooters, the big season-opener will be the 1939 Heart of America pistol meet, which will again be staged in the huge Royal Building arena, where last year over 10,000 assembled to witness the presentation of trophies—probably the largest crowd ever to witness a shooting event, with the single exception of the Olympic Games. The dates are April 24th to 28th, inclusive. The program lineup looks like a regular outdoor tournament, with a full schedule of 25 and 50 yard events, made possible by the size of the arena. Better write Sgt. D. E. Bates, Police Headquarters, Kansas City, Missouri, for a copy of the program, and plan to attend.

CONNECTICUT GALLERY CHAMPIONSHIP

Dates for the annual Gallery Championship Match at New Haven—"Biggest Indoor Shoot in the World"—have been set as March 3-4-5, when the entry total is expected to reach nearly the 1200 mark, estimating from the steady increase that has marked this event every year. All

of the shooting will be at 50 feet, metallic sights. If you haven't already made up your mind to attend, we'd advise you to do so and put in a bid for some of the hardware that will go to the winners.

CONNECTICUT

March 3-4-5: 11th Annual Gallery Championship Match to be held in New Haven, Conn. Sponsored by the Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association, Inc.

March 19: .22 Caliber Rifle Match to be held in New Haven, Conn. Sponsored by the Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association, Inc.

April 2: 50-Foot Match to be held in New Haven, Conn. Sponsored by the Connecticut State Rifle and Revolver Association, Inc. For programs of these events write J. Russell Lent, Middlefield, Conn.

FLORIDA

***March 7-11:** Flamingo Pistol Tournament to be held in Miami, Florida. Sponsored by the Florida East Coast Pistol League. For programs write A. T. Kelley, Jr., Box 43, Coral Gables, Fla.

***March 8-12:** National Mid-Winter Small Bore Rifle Tournament to be held in St. Petersburg, Florida. Sponsored by the Florida State Rifle Association. For programs write T. F. Bridgland, 225 4th Street, North, St. Petersburg, Florida.

***March 14-18:** National Mid-Winter Pistol Tournament to be held on the Tampa Police Pistol Range in Tampa, Florida. For programs write C. A. Brown, Box 253, Tampa, Florida.

March 22-26: The 2nd Annual Pan-American International Pistol Tournament to be held in Havana, Cuba. For programs write Gustavo E. Alfonso, Deputy Shooting Director, Palacio de las Deportes, Havana, Cuba.

GEORGIA

***March 4-5:** Atlanta Metropolitan Small Bore Rifle Tournament to be held in Atlanta, Ga. Sponsored by the Chattahoochee Rifle and Pistol Club. For programs write C. L. Jackson, 67 Luckie St., N. W., Atlanta, Ga.

ILLINOIS

***March 31-April 1-2:** University of Chicago Indoor Dewar Match to be held in Chicago, Illinois. Sponsored by the University of Chicago. For programs write Russell Wiles, Jr., University of Chicago Athletic Department, Chicago, Illinois.

April 7-8: Morgan Park Military Academy Inter-scholastic Tournament to be held in Chicago, Illinois. Sponsored by the Morgan Park Military Academy. For programs write Major Dennis C. Pillsbury, Morgan Park Military Academy, Chicago, Illinois.

May 21: Pistol Tournament sponsored by the Chicago Revolver Club. For programs write Otto Widmark, 3106 Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

KANSAS

March 11-12-13: Central Gallery Rifle Matches to be held in McPherson, Kansas. Sponsored by the McPherson Rifle and Pistol Club. For programs write R. B. McLaughlin, McPherson, Kansas.

MASSACHUSETTS

July 29-Aug. 6: The United Services of New England Annual Matches at Wakefield, Mass. Big Bore Rifle and Pistol. For programs write, E. F. Walker, Sec., 49 Westminster Providence, Rhode Island.

MINNESOTA

March 5: Third Annual Standing Gallery Rifle Tournament to be held in the Rochester High School Gym. Sponsored by the Rochester Rifle Club. For programs write John McGovern, care Hanson Hardware Company, Rochester, Minnesota.

MISSOURI

March 10-11: Midwest "Indoor Camp Perry" to be held in Boonville, Missouri. Sponsored by the Kemper Military School. For programs write Major B. R. DeGraff, Kemper Military School, Boonville, Missouri.

***April 24 to 28 inc.:** Heart of America Pistol Tournament to be held in Kansas City, Missouri. Sponsored by the Kansas City Police Benefit Association. For programs write Sgt. D. E. Bates, Police Headquarters, Kansas City, Missouri.

NEW YORK

***April 15-16:** Fourth Annual Niagara Frontier Indoor Pistol and Revolver Matches to be held in

Buffalo, New York. Sponsored by the Buffalo Revolver and Rifle Club. For programs write Wallace A. Beattie, 829 Ashland Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

May 13-14: Annual Spring Shoot sponsored by the Poughkeepsie Rifle Club, Inc. For programs write Charles Hoyt Smith, P. O. Box 1009, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

May 27-28: Second Annual Outdoor Pistol Tournament to be held in Albany, N. Y. Sponsored by the New York Central Athletic Ass'n Rifle Club. For programs write O. E. Whitbeck, 122 Morris Avenue, Albany, N. Y.

OHIO

***March 5:** 5th Annual Goodrich Open Pistol Tournament to be held in Akron, Ohio. Sponsored by the Summit County Pistol League. For programs write J. C. Kelsey, 133 High Point Avenue, Akron, Ohio.

March 18-19: Annual Indoor Tournament to be held at the 112th Engineers Armory in Cleveland, Ohio. Sponsored by the Cuyahoga Civilian Marksmen's Association. For programs write Ray T. Bayless, 7016 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.

March 19: Ohio State Gallery Pistol Tournament to be held at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio. Sponsored by the Ohio State Rifle and Pistol Association. For programs write Miles E. Goll, 119 Forest Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

April 15-16: Ohio State Rifle Team Matches to be held at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio. Sponsored by the Ohio State Rifle and Pistol Association. For programs write Miles E. Goll, 119 Forest Ave., Dayton, Ohio.

***April 22-23:** North Central Ohio Matches to be held in Ashland, Ohio. Sponsored by the Ashland Rifle and Pistol Club. For programs write Stuart M. Martin, V. M. C. A., Ashland, Ohio.

May 21: Fourth Annual Metropolitan Open Pistol Championship to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio. For programs write Captain H. E. Wilson, R. F. D. 1, Cincinnati, Ohio.

OREGON

***May 27-28:** Medford Small Bore Tournament to be held in Medford, Oregon. Sponsored by the Medford Rifle Club. For programs write S. M. Tuttle, Box 1166, Medford, Oregon.

***June 10-11:** Oregon Small Bore Tournament to be held in Portland, Oregon. Sponsored by the Oregon State Rifle and Pistol Association. For programs write Leslie T. St. Clair, Gresham, Oregon.

PENNSYLVANIA

March 5: 2nd Annual Indoor Open Rifle Championship to be held at the Frankfort Arsenal. Sponsored by the Philadelphia Marksman's League. For programs write D. P. Blackstone, 1424 East Barringer St., Philadelphia, Pa.

TEXAS

***March 19:** Capital City Championship to be held in Austin, Texas. Sponsored by the Austin Rifle Club. For programs write Vincent Valdes, 701 E. 6th Street, Austin, Texas.

***April 22-23:** Texas State Small Bore Tournament to be held in Fort Worth. Sponsored by the Texas State Rifle Association. For programs write John F. Callan, 403 E. 30th St., Austin, Texas.

May 18 to 21: Texas State Big Bore Rifle Matches at Laredo, Texas. Sponsored by the Texas State Rifle Association. For programs write John F. Callan, 403 E. 30th St., Austin, Texas.

VERMONT

March 18-19: Second Annual Open Pistol Tournament to be held in Northfield, Vermont. Sponsored by the Vermont Rifle and Pistol Association. For programs write D. R. Donahue, 34 St. Paul Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

April 15-16: Vermont State Gallery Rifle Championships to be held in Northfield, Vermont. Sponsored by the Vermont State Rifle and Pistol Association. For programs write Louis C. Taft, 41 Fortney Place, Barre, Vermont.

WISCONSIN

March 12: Seventh Annual Nemadji Small Bore Tournament to be held in Superior, Wisconsin. Sponsored by the Nemadji Rifle Club. For programs write A. G. Vrooman, 1611 Hammond Avenue, Superior, Wisconsin.

* Indicates Registered Tournament.

Obituaries

CAPTAIN E. C. CROSSMAN

*Twilight and Evening Star
And one clear call for me
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea.*

Ned Crossman was not addicted to poetry. He prided himself on his practical realism. Yet at the end of his journey over the Great Divide was best typified by the idealism of Tennyson's immortal poem, "May there be no moaning of the bar when I put out to sea."

Ned Crossman was one of the very few men of this or any other generation of American riflemen whose experience embraced the problems of the sportsman in the field, the civilian on the rifle range, the citizen soldier, the officer in the Army Ordnance Department and the scientific crime detection laboratory. Out of such breadth of experience he emerged naturally as the outstanding writer of his time in the field of guns and ammunition. He was the first "gun editor" to write technical articles for magazines of general circulation and was plainly the most successful at this method of educating the average American to some of the interesting technicalities of the shooting game.

Hunting with pack train and back-pack over the West from New Mexico to Oregon, it was natural that his interest and energies should be turned to the civilian rifle club. He was one of the organizers of the Burbank (California) Club early in this century and was the Secretary for many years. From the standpoint of years of service he was one of the oldest Directors of the National Rifle Association.

When the Small Arms Firing School was organized at Camp Perry in 1918 for the purpose of training officers as rifle instructors for the war time army, Lieutenant Colonel Smith W. Brookhart, at the time President of the National Rifle Association, turned to the ranks of outstanding civilian riflemen for his staff. Ned Crossman was commissioned a Captain and served as an instructor and member of the experimental staff at the most important and most famous Small Arms Firing School in American history.

After the Armistice his technical interest and long experience resulted in his assignment as one of the group of Ordnance Officers to conduct firing tests to determine the actual range of the .30-'06 cartridge and to experiment with various bullet forms with the view to increasing the effective range of our rifle and machine gun ammunition. In the subsequent tests at Daytona Beach many long accepted figures, based on theoretical calculations of range and penetration, were proven to be in error and for the first time American troops were given actual rather than theoretical figures on which firing tables might be based. Captain Crossman, therefore, played no small part in the development of our present M1 .30 caliber cartridge.

A TRIBUTE

I have known Ned Crossman since the beginning of the century when he and I collaborated in writing on sporting rifles. He came from his home in California and visited me at Governors Island in 1910.

From that time until his untimely death he has done a truly remarkable work in the interest of the promotion of rifle practice. I know of no other shooter who was so well versed in the technique of the grooved barrel, or so familiar with the allied sciences.

Sometimes scathing in his criticisms, he never failed to give justice where it was due.

He was a delightful companion to those who knew him well, generous to a fault, his greatest weakness that he would spend his last penny on his friends if permitted.

We riflemen have lost a very great friend, a wise counselor and coach, and a helpful scientist. I, one of his oldest friends, mourn his loss, and the help and comradeship which I have sensed the many times we lay side by side on the firing line.

TOWNSEND WHELEN.

With the revival of the National Matches in 1919 came assignment to the Matches at Caldwell, New Jersey, and an opportunity to undertake another experiment. Ned Crossman believed the .22 rifle possessed possibilities as a training weapon and as a means of introducing civilians to the shooting game far in excess of its use up to that time. The small bore range at Caldwell was the result—and .22 caliber shooting entered the National Match picture for the first time. For the first time, too, the Dewar International Team Match was fired out of doors. From this start in the Caldwell marshes the small bore outdoor game obtained the start which has brought it to its present wide-spread popularity. Ned Crossman was one of the real fathers of small bore shooting in America.

Stomach ulcers, bane of many an officer, resulted in Captain Crossman's retirement from the Army at the conclusion of the Daytona Beach experiment. He returned to California and found a ready market for the products of his pen. He was a fearless, indefatigable and voluminous writer. His columns and special articles



Captain E. C. Crossman

were sought and accepted by more magazines in and out of the sportsman field than has ever been true of any other writer in this field.

Ever restless in his search for new ideas, he turned enthusiastically to skeet when it made its appearance. The same searching interest carried him into the field of forensic ballistics, where his long and practical experience soon made him an outstanding figure. He served his fellow citizens as a truly expert consultant on criminal cases involving the use of guns or explosives in practically all the important cases on the West Coast.

Few new guns, cartridges, or accessories have appeared on the American market during the past twenty years which have not borne, in one way or another, the mark of Ned Crossman's experience passed along to the manufacturer after examining preliminary samples.

His "hard-boiled," sometimes cynical, exterior was an acquired veneer. Under it the real man was a sportsman of sportsmen, a charming and genial host, a fine father and a devoted husband. He filled a unique place and he has left an indelible mark on American military and sporting shooting ideas. His untimely death at the age of 50 in the Santa Monica Hospital at Los Angeles on January 19th, 1939, removed from the shooting game one of its outstanding figures of all time.

C. B. L.

HARRY S. WILLARD

With the death of Harry S. Willard, New Jersey riflemen and sportsmen have lost one of their oldest friends. Dr. Willard was ill for a long time, so his death in December was not unexpected, but it was a great shock to his wide circle of friends, and his funeral, at his home in Ridgewood, was attended by scores of people.

In recent years Dr. Willard's work had been

mainly as an oculist, but locally he was best known for his work in educational lines, and for many years as president of the Ridgewood Board of Education. He was the most active of the men who founded the old Ridgewood Rifle Club, and when the money was raised to build its splendid 75-foot indoor range, those who helped in the work insisted that its facilities should be free for all young people who would practice rifle shooting. For many years one or more afternoons each week through the school season have been passed in rifle practice by both girls and boys, and the High School teams have made splendid records. Dr. Willard was also one of the twenty founders of the Joe Jefferson Club, whose quarters are in a huge log building beside Saddle River, feeding which are two spring-fed ponds alive with native trout. The land is part of the late Joseph Jefferson's summer home, and the clubhouse is shaded by huge tulip trees. Dr. Willard was also a member of the Merriewold Club, in Sullivan County, New York, the home of a summer colony where, in autumn, the men-folk spent week-ends shooting deer and grouse; and in summer the doctor passed his week-ends at his cottage on Twin Lakes, in Pennsylvania. He was one of the best all-round shots with the rifle that I have ever known, and with him I passed many happy days, fishing, hunting grouse, and practicing at 200 yards on the club's rifle range at Ramapo, New York. No one ever had a finer companion and friend than Harry Willard.—PERRY D. FRAZER.

CHALLENGES

The Wheeling Rifle and Pistol Club of Wheeling, West Virginia would like to fire postal matches with any club. Five high scores to count, .22 caliber, any sights, 75 feet, four positions, N. R. A. official targets must be used. Will exchange either scores or targets. Any clubs interested in firing against a club whose individual averages are 350 x 400 contact Norman McEwan, Secretary, Wheeling Rifle and Pistol Club, 3561 Highland Avenue, Bellaire, Ohio.

The Central New York Pistol and Revolver League of Utica, New York, wishes postal matches with any team in the country. Will fire 5 or 10 man teams, slow fire or National Match Course, either center fire or .22, 20 or 25 yards. League membership is over 150. Contact F. A. Hodges, Police Headquarters, Utica, N. Y.

The Rifle and Pistol Club of Queens, Inc., formerly the 3100 Civilian Rifle and Pistol Club, would like to inform clubs within the metropolitan area of New York of their desire to fire outdoor matches on any range within 50 or 60 miles of New York. Will travel, as have no outdoor range, during April, May and June. Any small bore course. Address Adrian E. Clark, Jr., Director of Rifle Activities, 39-16 46th St., Long Island City, New York.

The Virginia Polytechnic Institute would like to arrange shoulder-to-shoulder matches with rifle teams during the coming gallery season. Interested team managers should contact Maj. Frank W. Halsey, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia.

MEXICO-INTERNATIONAL

(Continued from page 41)

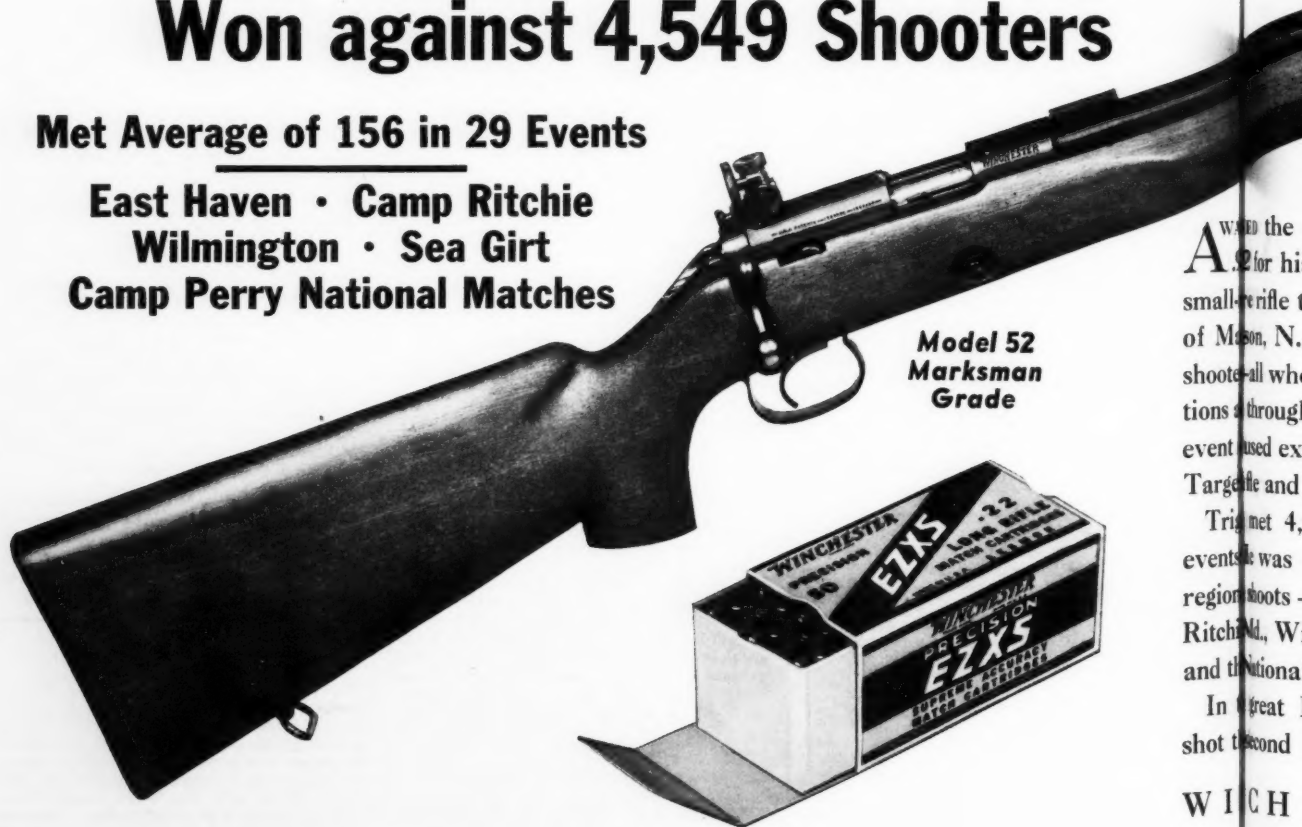
high at 500 meters, with W. A. (Bill) Lewis of the Alamogordo Club second high at 200 meters. The medals were presented with much ceremony, with speeches by El Presidente Thacker and other officials of the club, with every emphasis upon sportsmanship and good fellowship. President Carl E. Anderson of the Alamogordo Club responded and invited the del Nortans to Alamogordo, New Mexico, for a return match later in the spring. Every American agreed that they never had experienced a more royal entertainment than that given them by the Tiradores del Norte Club.

RANSFORD D. TRIGGS PACES BIG 1938 MATCHES SHOOTING *WINCHESTER*

**Heads Big-Time Competition
with .903 Official Ranking
Won against 4,549 Shooters**

Met Average of 156 in 29 Events

**East Haven • Camp Ritchie
Wilmington • Sea Girt
Camp Perry National Matches**



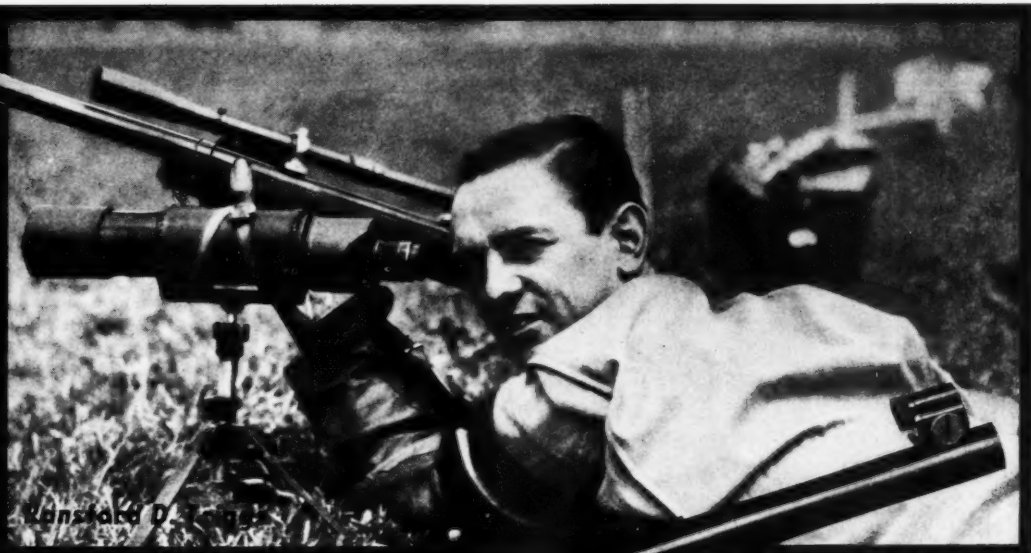
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W I C H

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Nation's Leader in Major Shoots Used Model 52 and EZXS

Awarded the official N.R.A. rating figure of 2 for his participation in 1938 registered small-bore rifle tournaments, Ransford T. Triggs, of Mason, N. J., leads the nation's big-time shooters—all who shot in major regional competitions through the National Matches. In every event used exclusively a Winchester Model 52 Target Rifle and Winchester EZXS cartridges.

Triggs met 4,549 competitors, in 29 different events he was among the leaders in four great regional shoots—at East Haven, Conn., Camp Ritchie, Md., Wilmington, Del., Sea Girt, N. J.—and the National Matches at Camp Perry.

In the great International Dewar Match, he shot the second highest score—400-28Xs—for the

winning and record-smashing 20-man United States Team. . . . In the International R.W.S. Match, he again shot the second highest score—397—for the United States Team. (The highest scores in these matches, shot by Dave Carlson, of New Haven, Conn., were also made with Winchester Model 52 and EZXS.)

There is something in the consistently superior shooting done with Model 52 and EZXS by America's leading big-time small-bore marksmen, against gilt-edge and abundant competition, in major tournaments. It reliably assures you that in using Winchester equipment you have the successful combination for winning in the hottest competition.

WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS COMPANY

Division of Western Cartridge Co.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., U. S. A.

DOPE BAG - - -

Conducted by F. C. NESS

Taking Stock. Since we have moved into new quarters and have better facilities which promise a new era for our work, it might be well to look back and take stock of what has been committed, or omitted as the case may be. Because of our policy of reporting to the maker, initially, any criticisms of new arms and accessories, it might be that all our subsequently published reports seem to be favorable to the product. This impression could easily be furthered by our items in the Trade Dope column which are primarily announcements of new things, published as news and not as reviews.

Naturally the maker and the advertiser have viewpoints which are diametrically opposed to those entertained by the reader. Since we get comments from both sides, we are kept apprised that all our published reviews are not favorable to the product.

For example, in our comments published in the February magazine, we found the image of a new targetscope was comparatively hazy and that its cross hairs were slightly askew; that a certain rifle was only fairly accurate in a well-known "wild cat" caliber and that another standard target rifle was quite inaccurate; a rest device was comparatively inconvenient and uncomfortable to use; an autoloader failed to function with several loads and was only fairly accurate; a sight device was clumsy and bulky and projected too much to the side; a scope device introduced a zeroing complication. We questioned the cost of a sling and doubted the economy of a new cleaner. A scope mount was judged to be undesirable in finish and appearance for fine rifles. That was all in the last issue.

Occasionally a review is predominantly unfavorable, but because our preliminary suggestions are usually adopted by the makers before the product is reviewed in print, such adverse printings are rarely warranted. Many samples received throughout the year are so palpably inferior they fail to receive any recognition even in the Trade Dope column. However, when a maker ignores all suggestions and criticisms and insists on advertising a faulty article we do not hesitate to condemn it.

.300 Magnum Loads. We have a heavy Niedner barrel on our M-1917 action close-chambered by the Niedner Rifle Corporation for the .300 Holland & Holland Magnum cartridge. When it is finally stocked for target shooting we will handload for this long-range bull gun. We may be able to use some and we may not be able to use any of the maximum loads quoted below, because much depends on chamber dimensions, throat, etc., of the individual rifle in a given caliber, and especially in this .300 H. & H. Magnum with pressures reaching 55,000 pounds.

We are fairly certain of one component and that is the primer. Our first choice is the F. A. No. 70, but we can also use the Western 8½G primer. Another possibility is the W. R. A. No. 120 primer, which we would prefer if it will give adequate ignition in this large-capacity case. This is because it is of modern type, meaning both nonmercuric and noncorrosive, whereas the F. A. primer is only nonmercuric and the Western 8½G is neither, but used in factory loads.

The new Ideal Handbook No. 33, just out, lists several loads for this caliber. Those branded as maximum are quoted here as a warning and not as a recommendation, because they should not be adopted arbitrarily but should be approached with caution from a lower level and then not exceeded. What is practical in one chamber may be less suitable or even unsafe in another rifle of the same caliber. These new Ideal maximum loads are:

Bullet	Powder	Overall
173-BT	58.5 4064	3.60
180-BT	57.5 4064	3.60
180-BT	56.5 HiVel 2	*

Bullet	Powder	Overall
220-FB	56.0 HiVel 2	**
225-WT	55.0 "	3.56
(* Seating depth .325 inch)		
(** " " .375 ")		

For these maximum loads, the Ideal Handbook lists from 2854 to 3000 f.-s. for the 180-grain bullet. That for the 173-grain, M1, Service bullet is 3030 f.-s.; for the 220-grain, 2625 f.-s. and for the 225-grain W. T. & C. W. bullet, 2575 f.-s. All are muzzle velocities.

Phil Sharpe, in his book, "A Complete Guide To Handloading," lists the following maximum loads for the .300 Magnum. While they are not intended to be arbitrarily adopted for every rifle of this caliber, they furnish a valuable guide to limit loading. They develop high pressures ranging from 50,000 pounds to 56,000 pounds. They are:

Bullet	Powder	Seat-Depth
110-FB	64.0 HiVel 2	.225
150-FB	69.0 15½	.300
172-WT	65.0 15½	.300
173-BT	66.0 15½	.475
180-BT	64.0 15½	.325
180-BT	56.0 HiVel 2	.325
180-FB	26.0 No. 80	.375
200-FB	56.5 HiVel 2	.375
200-FB	61.0 15½	.375
220-FB	60.0 15½	.425
220-FB	56.0 HiVel 2	.425
225-WT	55.0 HiVel 2	—
225-WT	61.0 15½	—

For these maximum loads, which are extreme in most cases, the top velocities listed are as follows: 110-grain bullet, 3550 f.-s.; 150-grain, 3185 f.-s.; 172-grain, 3100 f.-s.; 173-grain, 3025 f.-s.; 180-grain, 2850 f.-s.; 200-grain, 2865 f.-s.; 220-grain, 2625 f.-s. and the 225-grain, W. T. & C. W. bullet, 2575 f.-s. For the No. 80 load behind the 180-grain Flat-base bullet, the m. v. is given as 1850 f.-s.

As reported in the November Dope Bag, Frank Mannen had good results with a .307-inch, 170-grain, boat-tail bullet of .30-30 caliber and 58.2 grains of 4064 powder. The only other cheap bullet and the only light one which gave satisfactory results was the 93-grain Luger pistol bullet and 60.0 grains of 3031 powder.

Mr. Trone, a local N. R. A. member, has a standard M-70 Winchester which represents the lighter-weight sporter in the .300 H. & H. Magnum caliber. Theoretically, it should not be finely accurate, but is. He gets 5-shot groups around 2 inches at 200 yards with his better loads. He uses the W. R. A. No. 120 primer in his handloads. A good one with the 93-grain, O. P., Luger-pistol bullet is 46.0 grains of HiVel No. 2. The drop reported between 100 and 200 yards was 6¼ inches. He also has had good results with I. M. R. powder No. 1185, by using about 52.5 grains behind the 110-grain .30-30 caliber bullet.

Back in 1936, Gardner Johnson tried from 60.0 to 68.0 grains of No. 15½ powder in the .300 H. & H. Magnum behind the 173-grain, M1, Service boat-tail, with F. A. No. 70 primers. He found exactly 66.0 grains to be the best load. Our friend, Mark Cooper, had good results in his .300 Magnum with 62.0 grains of this powder behind the same bullet. This load required same sight elevation as factory cartridges at long range.

The .300 Magnum is deservedly popular for long-range target shooting, with heavy bull guns, and for big game at long range, with medium-weight barrels. On the average, the fine accuracy for which it has a reputation is obtained only in the heavy-barrel target arms. Mr. Trone's standard-weight Winchester sporter in this caliber, however, is exceptionally accurate, as it will shoot minute-of-angle groups.

The .300 Magnum can well take the place of the "wild cat" .280 Dubiel Magnum whose

popularity is in a decline. Since .280-caliber bullets are no longer made by Western Tool & Copper Works, components for this special necked-down .300 Magnum are now being obtained only with great difficulty. Cases for this .280 Magnum must be press-fashioned in special dies.

Duplex Developments. Without reference to O.K.H. Duplex loads, on which we have no dope, we continue our policy of reporting individual experiments and experiences with duplex loads. In our first article (November Dope Bag) was included mention of the device of paper or metal tubes for front ignition at the base of the bullet.

Our member James L. Gerry, long identified with the shooting game, has tried brass ignition tubes in the .280 Magnum and .276 Magnum cases. He found that to solder the tube proved unreliable and he finally fastened it in the flash hole by clinching it over the primer side of the web in a shallow recess, which latter was made to preserve the original pocket dimensions. He also found a large tube would bulge or buckle and he finally met success with a tube of flash-hole diameter. The front-ignition tube extends the flash hole to the shoulder of the case.

A plug rod or stopper is used in the mouth of the ignition tube when the main charge of coarse military powder is poured in. This plug is then removed and the quick-burning small charge is poured on top, some of it going down the tube, the remainder on top of the main charge. In theory, the bullet is started into the barrel by the light initial charge with a minimum of slugging, distortion, etc., and is in motion when the main charge turns into gas and fills the increased powder space behind the moving bullet in its advanced position.

Decapping must be accomplished through the extended flash-hole of the long ignition tube with a slender pin, or the fired cap must be gouged out from the outside like a Berdan primer. Mr. Gerry is now working on a simplification to obviate this chore by using a tube of nitrated paper, which can be more easily inserted and which will conveniently remove itself from the scene by obligingly burning to ash and blowing out with the other residue.

It is important to use extreme caution with such combinations or with any unfamiliar load. A story comes from the vicinity of Atlanta to the effect that a shooter tried slightly too much Bullseye priming, or main charge, or both in his duplex experiment, and came to grief. Risk your rifle if you will, but avoid risking your person by using a long string or an ample barricade.

M2 150-Grain .30-caliber bullets, similar to the old Service bullet but having gilding metal jackets, are available to N.R.A. members through the D.C.M. office at \$5.55 per thousand. They are shipped only from Frankford Arsenal near Philadelphia. The M2 ammunition, (.30-06) loaded with these 150-grain bullets, is also available at \$31.19 per thousand. At present it is shipped from Raritan, N. J., and from Savannah, Georgia. Later it will be made available from the Benecia Arsenal, Calif., as well. Make all applications to the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Navy Building, Washington, D. C.

Osgood On Duplex Loads—I find now that I have been duplex loading shotgun shells for my old double E grade Syracuse Lever 12 gauge gun (choked full in both the Krupp steel 26-inch barrels) for years and didn't know it was duplex loading. This consisted of a priming charge of 3 grains of triple-Fg granulation black powder under the 3 drams of Dupont bulk smokeless. This made for fine even patterns in the 30-inch circle at forty yards; a 10% to 15% improvement.

Now that some of the mystery of duplex loading has been lifted, I got busy with my heavy .30-06 Springfield, cut with the close

Niedner chamber and short throat for the 93-grain Luger, and 110-grain Winchester .30/30 pills. I have finally arrived at two loads. With the 8X Fecker scope from the padded concrete bench rest. Everything weighed and mixed to exact amounts. The bullets weighed 110.1 grains and the powder charges were 45 grains of Pyro D. G. lot 540, and five grains priming charge of King's semi-smokeless in the base of the cases primed with some old F.A. No. 70 primers, bought around 1930. The charges burned cleanly, tho' there was some smoke at the muzzle. I miked all the cases before and after firing and there was not the slightest sign of pressure. The barrel remained almost cold after 30 rounds. With the regular load of 51 grains of Pyro and the 92.5-grain Western soft point Luger pistol pills, this group would have been from $\frac{1}{8}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch smaller. The feature of this load is the cool burning.

The other load, which cut 'em all into a nickel-size hole at 100 yards, was primed with the same primers and consisted of 35 grains of 4320 and 5 grains of sifted bulk shotgun (2nd sifting) and same pills, only of 108.5 grains weight. This load burned cleanly and without signs of pressure. The barrel started to heat just in front of the fore end (about half way up to the muzzle). The report was much sharper. The recoil from either of these loads is practically nothing. This last load shot about as accurately as anything I have tried. I wish you would try out the above in one of your standard-barreled and chambered .30-'06 rifles if you get the chance this winter. If you don't, will you pass the above along to some of your friends who are still playing with standard rifles and have them give me their results to check against my heavy-barrel, close-chambered, Niedner job?—S. P. OSGOOD, 131 E. Water St., Rockland, Mass.

Velocity Effectiveness. I find the discussion of the light bullet versus heavy one, all in the so called small bores, which in this instance we will consider between 7 mm. and roughly 5.5 mm. (.220) really interesting. This series of letters which you publish from time to time in your department is *instructive* as it indicates clearly the same diversity of opinion exists today as to the effective results of the *express system* on big game as raged this very discussion among riflemen many, many years ago.

For a long time I have considered that were it possible to obtain a correctly designed bullet, one that would penetrate well and then disrupt within the animal we could utilize much more effectively the high velocities—striking velocities—now appearing slowly but surely.

Many of our riflemen appear prejudiced I think on the really astounding results that have been accomplished in the great game field with the .220 Swift as a concrete example. This cartridge was never really intended for such work but it is nevertheless a fact this little cartridge has accomplished results so interesting as to warrant very *careful study indeed*.

It does not seem logical to pass these results by as "hot air"; there is a great deal more to the matter than what it appears to be. There are a number of calibers somewhat larger than the .220 that contain the germ of this super-express system admirably were it possible to obtain a really fine light weight bullet designed to give delayed internal action.

This system (express) is American by discovery and use in the game field and in war but was given prominence by the British in their efforts to improve sighting errors in the field against big game and to a certain extent proved an advance in their type of hunting.

Generally speaking all our modern small caliber rifles are express rifles in that their trajectories are quite flat over usual game ranges which I would put at from 100 to 300 yards as a general rule. However, this effect or result of flattening the trajectory though it is very marked indeed over the early big bore rifles does not produce such an outstanding paralyzer one would at first glance believe. Why?

Taken by and large the Swift is the only modern American small bore rifle so far produced

that has really accomplished to any degree whatever the potent connection of very light weight of bullet with very high remaining velocity and it is this situation our rifleman friends should honestly consider no matter what they may have as a particular love in the twisted tube or particular cartridge or caliber.

Now, if we could project a 6 mm., a $\frac{6}{16}$ mm. or a 7 mm. bullet in approximately the same weight as the Swift standard bullet (48 grains S form) to at least 4000 f.s. m.v. or somewhat greater and this bullet was of really admirable form and of suitable construction we would undoubtedly see a lot of most interesting results. That there are interesting matters pertaining to this super velocity and that there are more than interesting features resulting therefrom I refer you to the taking of velocity figures electrically or by accurate pendulum (ballistic pendulum) data. This situation is interesting because it clearly shows that usual bullet mass and usual standard speeds register one thing and light bullet mass and super speed register another figure. Why? Understand please that in both instances the mathematics of the situation do produce the same on paper but *not* upon the registering device.

There is ample concrete evidence of this by the way and this is possibly the *slight lead* that makes me believe this matter of the very light bullet beautifully designed and delivered at tremendous initial velocity is a humane and deadly projectile.

I am sold on no particular system, caliber or cartridge case. My data is high remaining velocity in the same relation as pertains to the *little SWIFT*. It can be done and it eventually will be done in far finer manner than I *ever* could do.—G. L. WOTKINS.

.219 Zipper. Winchester factory ammunition averaged $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches at 100 yards in a No. 3 Winchester S.-S. chambered and fitted for Howard W. Wilson, of Ithaca, N. Y., at the Winchester factory. We reported this 100-shot test several months ago in the Dope Bag, and it still stands as the best accuracy we have had reported in this caliber. Mr. Wilson uses a $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Fecker 8X scope and shoots from bench rest. Exactly as we had found several rifles of this caliber, he found his rifle to be temperamental with handloads and his loads to be tricky and unreliable. His results indicated that the Sisk 50-grain bullet was best.

Then he tried 4198 powder and F. A. No. 70 primers, the latter to improve ignition and the former, combustion. This worked well, in his rifle at least. He seated the 50-grain bullet in his .219 Zipper cases to make an overall cartridge length of 2-7/16 inches. Shooting five 10-shot groups with each load he got excellent accuracy at 100 yards. I have arranged his results in tabular form below:

Load (grains)	10-Shot Groups			
	(min.)	(max.)	(mean)	
19.0	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$1\frac{1}{4}$ "	1-1/16"	
20-21	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$1\frac{3}{8}$ "	$1\frac{1}{4}$ "	
22.5	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	1-1/16"	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	

Mr. Wilson zeroed his scope so as to hit $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches above aim at 100 yards. He said the bullet landed $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches low at 270 yards, and that it proved as effective on chucks as the .220 Swift. For him, the 50-grain bullet was less wind-sensitive than any bullet he had tried, including the 48-grain pointed and 55-grain bullets in the Swift.

We have tried 10 different Zipper bolt-action rifles, 3 by Winchester, 3 by Sedgley, 3 by G. & H. and 1 by Lovell; none of them as good as Mr. Wilson's rare specimen in this temperamental caliber. Our present Sedgley-Krag with Winchester Zipper barrel represents about the average accuracy of the ten rifles tried in this caliber. Just a year ago we tried 40 shots with W. R. A. factory ammunition from bench rest using the $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch Fecker 8X scope.

The average at 100 yards was 2.93 inches with the 46-grain cartridge, and 5.70 inches at 200 yards. The 100-yard group with the 56-grain load was 3.05 inches and the 200-yard average 6.10 inches. Furthermore, these were all 5-shot groups with the 56-grain bullet. Our handload

of 31.0 grains 4320 behind the Sisk 40-grain Express bullet did better, putting 10 shots in 2.65 inches at 100 yards. The only satisfactory performance on that warm and windy March day was 10 shots in 1.95 inches (9 in 1.57 inches) and that was our favorite Sisk 55-grain Niedner bullet and 28.0 grains of 4320 powder.

When our 56-grain impact was zeroed nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches above aim at 100 yards it was nearly an inch low at 200 yards. With the impact on aim at 100 yards it went 4.35 inches low at 200 yards. The average drop between 100 and 200 yards was nearly 4 inches. The W. R. A. 46-grain bullet landed 6.20 inches lower at 200 yards than its relative impact (below aim) at 100 yards. A raise of 4.6 minutes would have put this bullet on aim at 200 yards and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches above aim at 100 yards. In a brisk cross wind from 10 o'clock the 56-grain bullet blew 3.51 minutes right or 7.35 inches, between 100 yards and 200 yards against 3.96 minutes right, or 8.30 inches, for the 46-grain bullet.

On December 3rd we began developing a .219 Zipper load with 4198 powder. The W. R. A. 48-grain Swift bullet did not do well with Western 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ primers. The highest charge, 23.0 grains, appeared best. Switching to Western 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primers we got better groups with 20.0 and 22.0 grains, which reduced our groups to about 2 inches spread. We then added to the 22.0-grain load a priming charge of 3.0 grains Pistol Powder No. 5 and used R. A. No. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ primers. This reduced the group to less than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, but pressures seemed too high and cases were extracted with difficulty.

We dropped the booster, went back to Western 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primers and used a heavier charge of 4198; a straight load of 24.5 grains. This further reduced the spread, to less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (9 in 1.12 inches). This charge also worked well with the Sisk 40-grain Express bullet, but 26.0 grains of 4198 was still better, putting 5 in .58 inch. The 45-grain Hornet bullet did well with 20.0 and 22.0 grains of 4198, although it had been a very poor performer with 15.5 to 17.5 grains of 4227. All these light bullets with 24.5 to 26.0 grains of 4198 powder and Western No. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primers had the same impact or elevation at 100 yards.

We went through the same steps with the Sisk 55-grain Hornet bullet to develop a 4198-load for it. With Western 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ primers this bullet grouped well under 2 inches spread with 19.0 and 21.0 grains. The No. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primer was substituted but it did not seem to affect the grouping of these two loads. We then used the R. A. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ primer and added the 3.0-grain booster charge. Now the 19.0-grain load reduced its 100-yard spread to less than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, but the 21.0-grain load acted up, giving pressure signs, extraction difficulty and poor accuracy. As a check, we tried our old standby; the Sisk 55-grain Niedner bullet and 27.5 grains of 4064 powder. The 10 shots made 1.87 inches at 100 yards. Two 5-shot strings with Western 56-grain factory ammunition made groups of 1.63 and 1.55 inches.

Apparently, the 14-inch twist of this W. R. A. Zipper barrel on our Sedgley-Krag will handle the light, short bullets very well with around 25 grains of 4198 powder when well ignited by F. A. No. 70 primers or Western No. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primers. Also it will group the 48-grain W. R. A. bullet fully as well as any of our rifles; in fact, better than most of them.

It should be remembered that the Western 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ G primers, designed for the .300 Magnum and other cartridges of this type, are neither noncorrosive nor nonmercuric. That is, their use in a .22 barrel will necessitate careful cleaning of the bore, preferably with some aqueous solution, and a segregating of the fired cases which are weakened and made brittle by the mercuric deposit from these primers. The salt-depositing, F. A. No. 70 primers are better adapted for the same purpose because they are not mercuric and will not adversely affect the brass of the cases in which they are fired.

U. S. Hubbell of Tensleep, Wyoming, has a Krag-Zipper which is more accurate than the three we tried. We have also learned of a very accurate Zipper sporter in the general vicinity of Hudson, New York, which consists of a .22 Springfield barrel with a very "tight" target

chamber on the old M-54 Winchester action. Mr. Hubbell's Krag in this .219 Zipper caliber was converted by W. A. Sukalle and the Sukalle barrel itself proved to be a very satisfactory job. It was 27 inches long and had about the same dimensions as the Krag barrel. It was rifled with 6 grooves and a 16-inch pitch.

Mr. Hubbell is old in years, but young in spirit and personal faculties. He still uses metallic sights on this rifle, a Pacific receiver sight and a hooded bead front sight of 3/32-inch diameter. He used a bench rest and fired from muzzle and elbow rest at 285 feet, just under 100 yards. His test target was the Standard American 20-yard pistol target. He used F. A. No. 70 primers in all his loads.

The light loads which Hubbell found accurate in his Krag-Zipper were 7.0, 11.0, 13.0 and 17.0 grains of duPont No. 80 behind all Sisk bullets weighing from 50 to 63 grains. These loads made from 1-inch to 1 1/4-inch 10-shot groups at 285 feet. The poorest of these satisfactory loads is the one which includes the 50-grain bullet. The best combination is the 63-grain bullet and 17.0 grains of No. 80. This makes groups of 1 inch at 100 yards, of 2 1/2 inches at 200 yards and of 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 inches at 300 yards. No. 2400 was not nearly as effective in Hubbell's Zipper; the best load with it made a group of 7 inches at 200 yards. The 63-grain bullet and 13.0 grains No. 80 was accurate and the 55-grain full-jacketed bullet and 11.0 grains of No. 80 was particularly accurate.

In full-power loads the best bullet was the 55-grain weight, and the best powder was 3031. A load of 27.5 grains weight would shoot into 1 1/2 inches at 100 yards. I consider this to be excellent accuracy for an aged marksman with metallic sights. 26.5 grains of 3031 behind this bullet was equally accurate.

This one makes it a total of five accurate Zipper rifles about which we now have had reports. This will encourage us to make one final assay of the caliber in the shape of a heavy-barrel single-shot, although we still believe it has a comparatively low standard of accuracy for an ostensible varmint cartridge and that, on the average, its dependability of performance from day to day is still lower. The .219 Zipper can be made to perform well but apparently not in the class of the .22 Hornet, .22 Lovell, .22 Niedner Magnum or .220 Swift.

TRADE DOPE

Remington announces that D. W. Flannigan has been shifted from St. Louis to Bridgeport and placed in charge of their newly organized Peace Officers' Section, intended to be a clearing house of information on arms and ammunition for law-enforcement organizations. Dave Flannigan, formerly with Peters, has been identified with the ammunition business for 25 years, best known as an exhibition shooter. Last time I saw him perform with the revolver, rifle and shotgun was several years ago at River Falls, Wisconsin. In front of that Ike Walton League gathering he pulled an incredible stunt with his bottom-ejecting Remington 12-gauge pump-gun.

Ithaca Gun Company announces a new Featherweight repeating shotgun. It is a 20-gauge pump-gun which weighs 5 1/4 pounds. There are three models: the M-37, Standard grade with 26 to 28-inch barrels; the M-37-S, Skeet grade in the same lengths, but with rampless ventilated rib and Skeet-type fore end, weighing 6 1/2 pounds; and the M-37-T, Trap grade in same barrel lengths, but with high-grade selected wood, larger fore end, elaborate checkering and a weight of about 6 3/4 pounds.

The Lyman Gun Sight Corporation has delivered their new Ideal Handbook, No. 33. You will have to spend 50 cents again, if you want their new table of charges, which has been revised and modernized. We note many new loads. They have also made at least one delivery of their new No. 58-E receiver sight for the M-75 Winchester target rifle. It looks mighty good but we'll know more about it after trial. That makes three new ones for this rifle and

Winchester informs us they have improved on the design and production faults of their issue sight which we found unsuitable for match purposes.

Lyman A. McCrea of M-17 Litewate fame, has moved into new quarters at 531 W. Valley Blvd., El Monte, California. He remodels the M-1917 rifle into .30-'06 sporters as light as 7 pounds, 6 ounces, with 20-inch barrels only .550 inch at the muzzle. He also remodels the Springfield and the M-70. His prices run from \$24.00, economy job, to \$110.00, Deluxe Sporter, for remodeling the M-1917 rifle.

Vernor Gipson, 1934 Touhy Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is tooled up for rebarreling suitable actions for .256, .30 and .35 Newton calibers. Since the Western Cartridge Co., discontinued the .35 Newton cartridge, he is prepared to furnish cases for same.

Richard Stam has improved his rubber cheek rests for feel and looks, by using softer sponge rubber and a better grade of brown calf cover. He also has a new gadget to slip on the trigger guard for use as a soft thumb rest in the free-rifle standing position. See his ad.

Acheson Colloids Corporation now announce a colloidal graphite so finely divided and stable that it now can be suspended in volatile liquids of such low-viscosity as carbon tetrachloride, or in oils as fine as the thinnest kerosene. It amounts to a virtual paradox because insoluble graphite here is virtually in solution. It opens new vistas of graphitized lubrication or impregnation.

Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Corporation advertise Tergitol Penetrants, a group of wetting or penetrating compounds having great surface activity under conditions of high dilution. Because it emulsifies non-compatible liquids, such as brine, and is readily rinsed out, it might prove very useful in cleaning solutions for bores fouled by the salt-depositing chlorate primers. N. R. A. member, L. Burnett, of The Colonial Press Inc., called it to our attention. The producers headquarters are at 30 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.

William Ball, Jr., of West Chester, Pa., has a neat staple-bound pamphlet, which he prepared after a two-year research of firearm collections. This is a compiled check list of same arranged in alphabetical order. Price 50 cents, three for \$1.00, or eight for \$2.00.

J. D. Buchanan now sells his big four-gun pistol-and-scope case for \$9.90. His latest product is the Buchanan Automatic Reloader, a large production tool for revolver-clubs or police departments, made in either the .38 Special or .45 A.C.P. caliber. Designed for speed and capable of producing 1000 loads per hour. This type of tool operated by two men has turned out 1000 rounds in 45 minutes.

Fray-Mershon, Inc., announce their Featherweight scope mount for Weaver scopes and other internally adjustable scopes having 3/4-inch tubes. The price of this very light bracket mount has also been reduced, to \$5.00. Their White Line Recoil Absorber is to be supplemented with a new thinner and lighter model to retail at \$1.50. It will be known as the Blue Ribbon pad; and probably very well-known at this low price. The No-Slip pads of this make are the best we have tried, universally useful and liked. Everyone who sees one on our various rifles immediately decides to buy one like it.

Sights and Optical Goods. M. L. Stith now has his long made "Install-It-Yourself" mount ready for market at \$12.00. Made for either the Lyman Alaskan or Weaver scopes, it can be easily fitted to the M-70 Winchester without any drilling or tapping. Max M. Murrey, of San Anselmo, Calif., has made some fine target scopes since we first saw one at Camp Perry in 1936, but is now ready for the general market

for the first time. They are adjustable to high power (12.5-X and 15-X) and have fine optics. Price \$57.50 without mounts and ten bucks more with Lyman mounts. He is now making one model of Duraluminum which weighs only 14 ounces. Clifford Bogle of Maryville, Tenn., is about ready with his new sniping scope aimed at the .300 Magnum bull-gun and medium-weight target model for long-range matches and game, respectively. He uses a special improved form of the B. & M. Trussed-H mount made to his specifications. R. Noske has his new line of A-type hunting and sniping scopes ready for the market. The new 4X long-range scope, internally adjustable, is equipped with the new Noske elevation dial calibrated up to 1000 yards. To special order, these dials can be had for any practical sporting or target cartridge. Carolyn Mfg. Co., Inc., has an improved model of low-cost rifle scope, adjustable from 4 to 8 power and equipped with Marlin-type steel mounts. It is a very neatly finished piece of merchandise. We could not approve of their previous model which we considered too impractical to warrant mention. Now the optical and mechanical features have been improved to the practical stage, at least. G. N. Albree has now offered for some time the mount arrangement on the 19-H Savage which we pictured in the last issue. When we mounted it that way it was unique, which is no longer true. In fact, Albree Twinmounts are intended for such methods of attaching long 3/4-inch scopes on certain rifles. His No. 2 Monomount is for short scopes on such rifles and others without receiver rings, but including the M-37 Remington and M-52 Winchester. His No. 1 Monomount is intended for receiver-ring rifles, like the M-70 Winchester, 30-S Remington and the M-52 Sporter. C. B. Mitchell, Cohoes, N. Y., has his receiver-sight hunting scope about ready. It is a clever little lens gadget which replaces the eye cup or target-disc in peep sights. R. E. Davis of Grand Island, Nebraska, showed us his 6X Sniper's scope made at moderate price with mounts for varmint rifles. It was purposely not finely finished, but practical. It had a large field for detecting or locating moving game with a smaller clear field in the center for actual aiming. This central area gave good optics. We noted in particular that this instrument seemed to transmit, comparatively, a large amount of light. Lucite stands for the new plastic lenses which seem to have some amazing optical qualities.

New Catalogs. Al Freeland has a new 38-page catalog of Freeland accessories about 6 x 9 inches and apparently free. We have also received a sample of his improved scope stand for the 65-mm. B. & L. National Target & Supply Co., have a very comprehensive camera catalog. It is a swell job on Colonel Whelen's part. Their gun catalog will soon be available in enlarged edition at 50 cents per copy. The enlargement is the result of adding considerable information for shooters to make it more of a handbook. V. H. Blackinton & Co., have a new 32-page catalog just ready. It illustrates tasty designs of medals, trophies, novelties, etc., including several new ones by this enterprising concern, represented by Gene Mitchell. R. A. Litschert now has an illustrated circular of his popular telescope attachments in the form of a 6-page catalog about changing cheap scopes to 10X target sights. Pacific Gun Sight Co. have issued their new catalog, No. 18, with 120 pages and many new illustrations. Price, 20 cents, which is refunded on the next purchase order.

Edson W. Hall of Hollister, Missouri, announces a new gun oil for cleaning and anti-rust purposes, which he believes is already used by 50% of the riflemen in the southwest section of his state. Requires thorough shaking before taking and a generous application for maximum effectiveness. It is said to facilitate cleaning and to protect even against salt-bearing primer residue, but not guaranteed as an absolute protection against the latter. Our comparison test with salt, heat and moisture will give us a line on the sample, but this will take time.

L. G. Thomas who makes the excellent special trigger for the M-72 down in Shreveport, Louisi-

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ana, announces another model now ready for the M-37 Remington. It has the same uniform let-off without perceptible movement which characterized the Thomas-Womack mechanism for the Winchester match rifle. By writing for shipping date prompt service can be had. The price is the same, or \$27.50 fitted.

Bausch & Lomb announce a new shooter's frame for the well-known Ray-Ban goggles. It has a zylonite-protected sweat-bar for the forehead, which anti-fog provision we have appreciated many times, on our Belz glasses, during hot weather. The B. & L. 62-mm. curved lenses of scientifically tinted special glass are brought within 3 1/2 mm. of each other at the nose to afford ample protection.

Cumington Mfg. Co., of Cumington, Mass., announce a low-cost wooden target for plinkers, at \$1.00 per thousand, in red or white or plain. They are small enough to be sent flying by a .22-Short bullet. They are cylindrical and flat ended, being scrap from their turning lathes, salvaged and tumbled in paint for the plinking purpose. The cost rate per M means ten for a penny.

Leroy Boynton Fraser of Woodbridge, New Haven, Conn., has his training rifle about ready for the market after several years of development. It requires correct form and holding to automatically unlock and permit firing. Also adapted to shotgun training.

LETTERS

From Southern Rhodesia. As one of the dozen or so subscribers to the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN in this rather remote part of the world, I thought I would write to you with reference to your interesting article on the .25 Stevens in the January 1938 issue.

I need scarcely tell you that African sportsmen have nothing to learn with regard to big-game rifles. But as the country becomes more and more settled the big stuff is moving farther and farther afield until many men can no longer afford the time or the money to go in search of it.

But we still have plenty of small buck (antelope), jackals, guinea fowl, hares and vermin. Hence the interest beginning to be taken in small-game rifles.

I do not think the expensive custom-built .22 Lovell, etc., etc., with which American sportsmen seem to dynamite squirrels and chucks at unheard of ranges, are likely to be adopted in South Africa for sometime. To begin with, they are far too costly in a country where everything has to be imported. Then, again, long ranges are seldom necessary on the Bushveld, and are only obtained with a great waste of power at closer quarters.

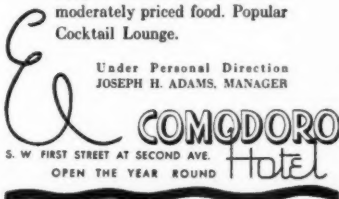
This question of power is most interesting: when I started using a .22 (rim-fire) on English rabbits as a boy, the older and more orthodox sportsmen of those days used to declare that the .22 was not powerful enough for rabbits. They used to advocate a .295.

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But as a matter of fact the .22, even with the low-power ammunition we had then, was quite capable of passing through two or three rabbits, and I have yet to find any miniature rifle which is not far too powerful for the game on which it is supposed to be used.

The trouble is, of course, that due to an enormous excess of penetration, half the power of any small bore rifle is invariably wasted on empty air on the far side of the animal shot.

This being so, I now use nothing more powerful than the .22 Hi-Speed Short (hollow point) for such small game as partridges, rabbits and even guinea fowl. The bullet passes clean through, with more or less expansion, at all ordinary ranges and, whatever the trajectory may be on paper, the fact remains that I have hit doves and other birds at 70 to 80 yards without altering my sights, and this is about the maximum range at which I personally am capable of hitting anything in the way of small game with an ordinary store rifle and coarse open sights.

Turning from this class of game to jackals and small buck, I find that (a) a .22 Short, hollow-point bullet will perfectly penetrate the neck of a duiker or steinbuck at 30 yards and (b) a .22 Long Rifle, hollow, square-nosed bullet will perfectly penetrate the body of a

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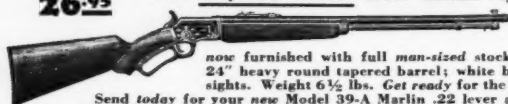
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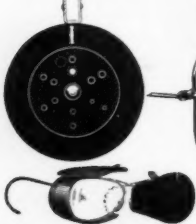
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duiker or steinbuck at 50 yards, expanding fairly well in the process!

In the face of these facts no one is going to convince me that an ordinary .22 does not have ample penetration to take care of small bucks—let alone chucks, rabbits, and squirrels! (These small South African buck vary in size from an American whitetail down to the smaller tropical deer of Mexico and South America. Delicately built, they offer very little physical resistance to a bullet, but often show amazing nervous vitality even when mortally wounded.)

This brings us back to the .25 Stevens. Would this rifle prove better than the .22 on these small buck? Personally, I cannot see that it would make much difference. I have tried to show that the .22 has ample penetration. What it lacks is stopping power due to the fact that the .22 bullet simply does not make a large-enough hole even when it expands.

You say that the .25 adds .03 inch of displaced tissue round the wound. Frankly, I consider that such a minute increase is hardly worth mentioning. With the .25 we do get 20 grains more lead and 50 foot-pounds more muzzle energy. This sounds helpful on paper, but in actual practice I think the extra lead would merely cause the bullet to drive clean through the buck and waste the extra energy on the surrounding landscape!

The fact is that all these modern H.V. small bores have wonderful ballistics, great accuracy and amazing range of fire. But for sheer killing power at short range they are only about 50% efficient or less! The reason for this is only too plain; a bullet that will slip neatly through a 200-yard thickness of atmosphere will just as neatly slip through 10 inches of animal tissue—and keep on going when it gets to the other side! Thus only 50% energy (or less) is actually expended inside the animal—the only place where it does any good.

Personally, I am not interested in long ranges. Our small African game is not that wild; neither do we have, as yet, either the fine skill or the elaborate sighting equipment necessary for real gilt-edged accuracy on small game at extreme ranges. Most of us can hit lions; but that is another story as the late Mr. Kipling would say.

No, what we are looking for is a really cheap, accurate and reliable rim-fire cartridge firing about a .30 caliber, pure lead, hollow-point bullet of 60 or 70 grains at a velocity as near as possible to 1,500 f.-s. at the muzzle. In other

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words, a bullet that will make a large entrance hole, expand perfectly, and expend all its energy inside a small buck at a maximum range of 100 yards. There you have it in a nutshell. No doubt the .25 Stevens is a charming little gun, but you can see at a glance that it would not fill these specifications.

Of the several other rifles mentioned in your article the .32 rim-fire would seem to be the most hopeful. So far as I can see, the only drawback to this load is that it has never been perfected. But I can see absolutely no reason in nature why we shouldn't have a .32 Long rim-fire cartridge with 60-grain bullet just as economical, reliable and accurate as the .22 Long with its 30-grain bullet. Indeed, the .32 Long would be nothing but an enlarged version of the present .22 Long and so long as the average sportsman throughout the world uses a twenty-two for rabbits and hares, etc., it would seem perfectly logical for him to use a thirty-two when he is out for something a trifle larger—i. e. chucks, fox, jackals and the smaller kinds of buck.

Altogether I consider that the present craze for ultra-small bores (with or without ultra-high velocities) is being decidedly overdone. Yet for sheer killing power on medium-sized game is there anything to beat an ordinary 12-bore with the new Winchester rifled slug? And what is this, in effect, but a super large-bore, low velocity rifle? Can you name any small-bore rifle which has as much practical (not theoretical) stopping power for anything like an equivalent muzzle energy?

Then don't you think we might have just one small-game rifle that really is a game stopper and not just a target rifle watered down? Of course, we do have such rifles in England. I do not know if they are as inaccurate as the .32 rim-fire appears to be, but unfortunately they all use black powder which is an intolerable nuisance and drawback in these days.

Finally, I would like to say that I am far from being the only one who would welcome the advent of a really good, economical American factory made .32 rim-fire cartridge. About eighteen months ago there appeared in the English "Field" an article by an American who seemed to have had an unrivalled amount of experience in shooting small game with pistols while on camping and prospecting trips up and down the West over a period of thirty years or more.

This gentleman had found the .32 to be the only caliber worth considering in a practical small game pistol—and he had tried everything from the .44 down to the .22. The .22 he condemned on the grounds that the bullet either didn't expand when fired from a pistol, or if it did (as in the case of Hi-Speed wadcutters) then it mangled and lacerated the game appallingly. Like myself, this gentleman deplored the fact that the .32 has never been perfected up to the standard of good modern rim-fire ammunition.

Just imagine a Harrington & Richardson "Sportsman" model revolver but in .32 caliber and chambered for light small-game loads in good cheap rim-fire cases. Doesn't it make your mouth water?

Here, then, is another big field for the development of the .32 cartridge. It would be immediately taken up by every small-game pistol shooter sick of being palmed off with the ordinary .22 Long Rifle just because it happens to be good enough for target shooting.—E. MUSPRATT.

Answer: Many thanks for your very interesting letter about shooting conditions in

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South Rhodesia and the present trend in your section of the globe. I note well what you say and your argument in substantiation, but I still think the .25 Stevens high-velocity rim-fire would be admirably suited for your purpose as based on practical results which have amply demonstrated its peculiar killing qualities and effectiveness on game that would carry away altogether too much lead when the ordinary .22 Long Rifle bullet was used. Many of our practical-test-shooters claim that they can kill a jack-rabbit far more cheaply with the .32-20 rifle cartridge than they can with the .22 Long Rifle, because it takes so many more rounds per kill for the .22. These same shooters have found the ordinary .25 Stevens effective, but they do not like its high trajectory.

For your benefit and information I want to point out an error you have made in estimating the additional killing qualities promised by a .25-caliber lead bullet. First I want to say that both bullets are made of the same material and are given the same rate of spin at the same velocity, but the .25 Stevens at 1500-1600 f.-s. would have a higher rate of spin. Now, even with the same rate of spin the greater diameter of the .25 caliber bullet would make its rim speed in rotation on its long axis considerably quicker than that of the smaller .22 caliber bullet, because its outer edge would be describing a greater arc in the same time and hence a faster rate is obvious.

Also you failed to take into consideration the fact that the slight increase in diameter makes more than a 7.5% increase in the cross-sectional area which in turn determines the shocking power applied by the bullet at a given velocity. I think that you will admit that, everything else equal, the considerable increase of 7.5% in area is important. In addition, we have the higher energy and the better-shape factor owing to the flat point of the .25 caliber bullet. At 300 ft.-lbs. the relative shock power for the .25 Stevens high-velocity would be 21.78 against only 4.2 for the .22 Long Rifle H. V., and this does not include nor recognize the greater rim speed of the .25 caliber as it rotates. The proposed cartridge is contemplated in two styles, including both the 70-grain solid and 60-grain Hollow-Point bullet.

Here we demand fine accuracy as required for hitting small game at 100 yards over unknown distances and the .32 rim fire would be quite impractical.

Muspratt Replies: Very many thanks for your most interesting reply to my letter on the subject of small-game rifles.

I can well understand the preference of your jack rabbit shooters for the .32-20 within its own limited sphere of action; and I see that the same argument has been put forward in the case of grey squirrels in a recent article ("Squirrel Medicine") in the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN—the writer never lost one squirrel hit with the .32-20, though he still favors the .22 Long Rifle from the accuracy-and-flat-trajectory point-of-view.

Altogether, the comparatively poor stopping power of the .22 Long Rifle seems to be pretty generally recognized, though it is quite inaccurate to attribute this, as so many do, to a lack of power *per se*.

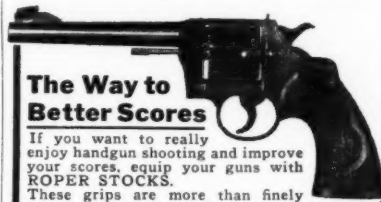
I wonder if it has ever occurred to you that 5 pellets of No. 6 shot would almost certainly anchor a rabbit at close on 60 yards; and assuming the striking energy to be about one foot pound per pellet at this range, this gives us 5 ft.-lbs. as the minimum striking energy necessary to kill a rabbit (barring flukes) when the force is properly distributed.

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Now compare this with the .22 Long Rifle bullet whose striking energy, even at 100 yards of 100 ft.-lbs. exceeds the minimum by the handsome margin of 1,900%, yet often fails to stop a rabbit, owing presumably to the wonderfully poor distribution of the force (certainly not to any lack of power in ft.-lbs.).

With regard to your remarks about rate of spin and cross-sectional area, I should like to point out that while I used to find these and kindred topics of absorbing interest in England and the states, yet out here we have to be content with the roughest of calculations. What I said was based entirely on your own estimate that the .25 would give us 15 grains more bullet weight, 150 ft.-lbs. more energy, and .03 of an inch more of displaced tissue around the wound.

In your last letter you quote more figures tending to show that the shocking power of the .25 would, in fact, be much greater than I had supposed. Yet you know how deceptive such figures (particularly relating to striking energy) can sometimes be when it comes to estimating the actual killing power of a given bullet on game. Also, I think you will agree that, of all the various factors involved, the most reliable criterion is the area (or volume) of tissue destroyed or displaced. That is why I was so disappointed in that mere .03 inch of extra tissue displaced by the .25. It seems so little when one considers that displaced tissue is the only thing that gives certain results.

Still, I consider you have certainly now made out a prima facie case for the .25. So now I think we can temporarily adjourn this interesting discussion until the new .25 cartridge comes on the market. At which time I hope to be in a position to purchase a rifle of this caliber and after trying it out on all species of African small game I shall have great pleasure in sending you a full report on the result.

I certainly think you are to be congratulated for making such a fine effort to develop a cartridge of fine accuracy, reasonably powerful, and at the same time well within the means of the ordinary small-game hunter.—E. MUSPRATT.

"Artistic Gun Engraving" is the title of a pamphlet received from Arnold Griebel, "Engraver of Fine Guns", 4724 N. Keystone Avenue, Chicago. His engravings are "personally" guaranteed to be of superior workmanship. Prices are determined by the extent, depth and detail. Pistols and revolvers, from \$10.00 up. Rifle floor-plates and trigger guards, from \$60.00 to \$120.00. Shotgun frames and barrel, \$90.00 to \$120.00.

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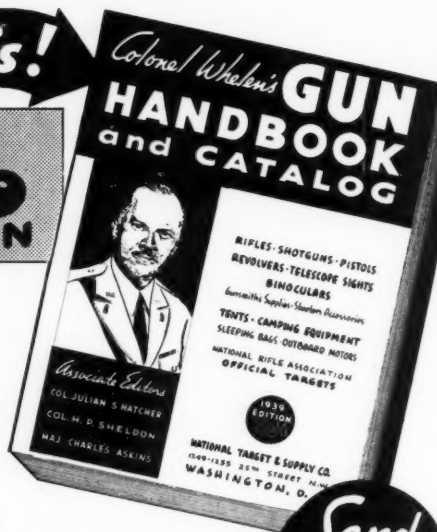
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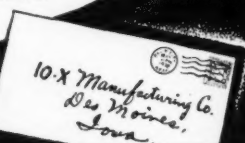
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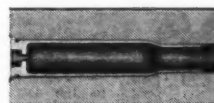
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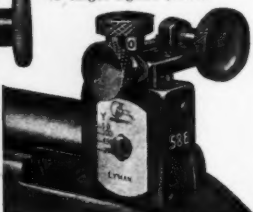
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BEST Cash Offer Takes: Remington .30-06 Enfield, 24" barrel, Walnut Sporting Stock, Weaver 29S Scope, rear sight milled off, Army sling, quick detachable swivels, sheep lined case, perfect; 30-40 Krag, 22" barrel, Walnut Sporting Stock, Army sling, 102 receiver and gold bead ramp front sights Redfield, sheep lined leather case, gun fair, stock sights and case new; Model 1894 .30 W.C.F. octagon barrel, fair; 50-70, 1871 Springfield, poor. W. S. Edwards, Box 1102, Overton, Texas. 3-39

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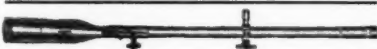
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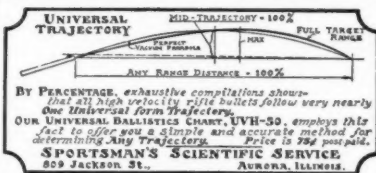
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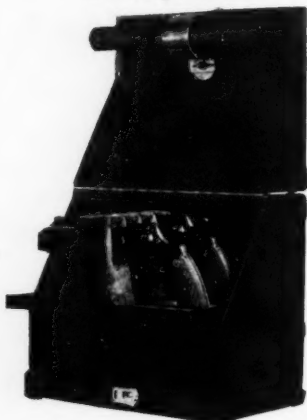
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30-06 REMINGTON 30-A, Zeiss Zielklein scope, Western mount, Hawkins recoil pad, excellent. want 70 Winchester .257 with Lyman 48 same condition and Pacific tool, or sell for \$57.00 J. E. Cagle, 135 South LaSalle, Chicago. 3-39

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EXCELLENT, Model 54 Swift "Target" weight barrel, sporting stock, with, without, A-5 scope. Unfinished full-ribbed Dubiel barrels, rifled, cal. .30, .280, .270. WANT—Winchester Super Grade .257 or .270; K-22, or .22 O.M. recessed cylinder; bores perfect. Major John J. Atkinson, Norman, Oklahoma. 3-39

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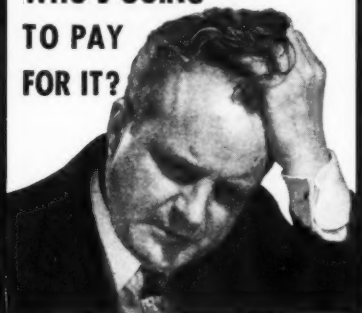
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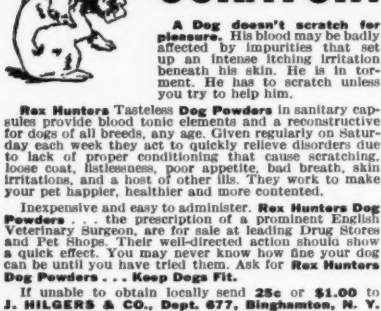
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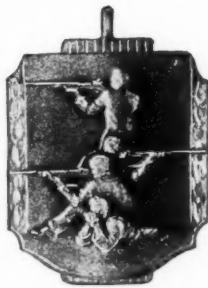


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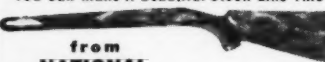
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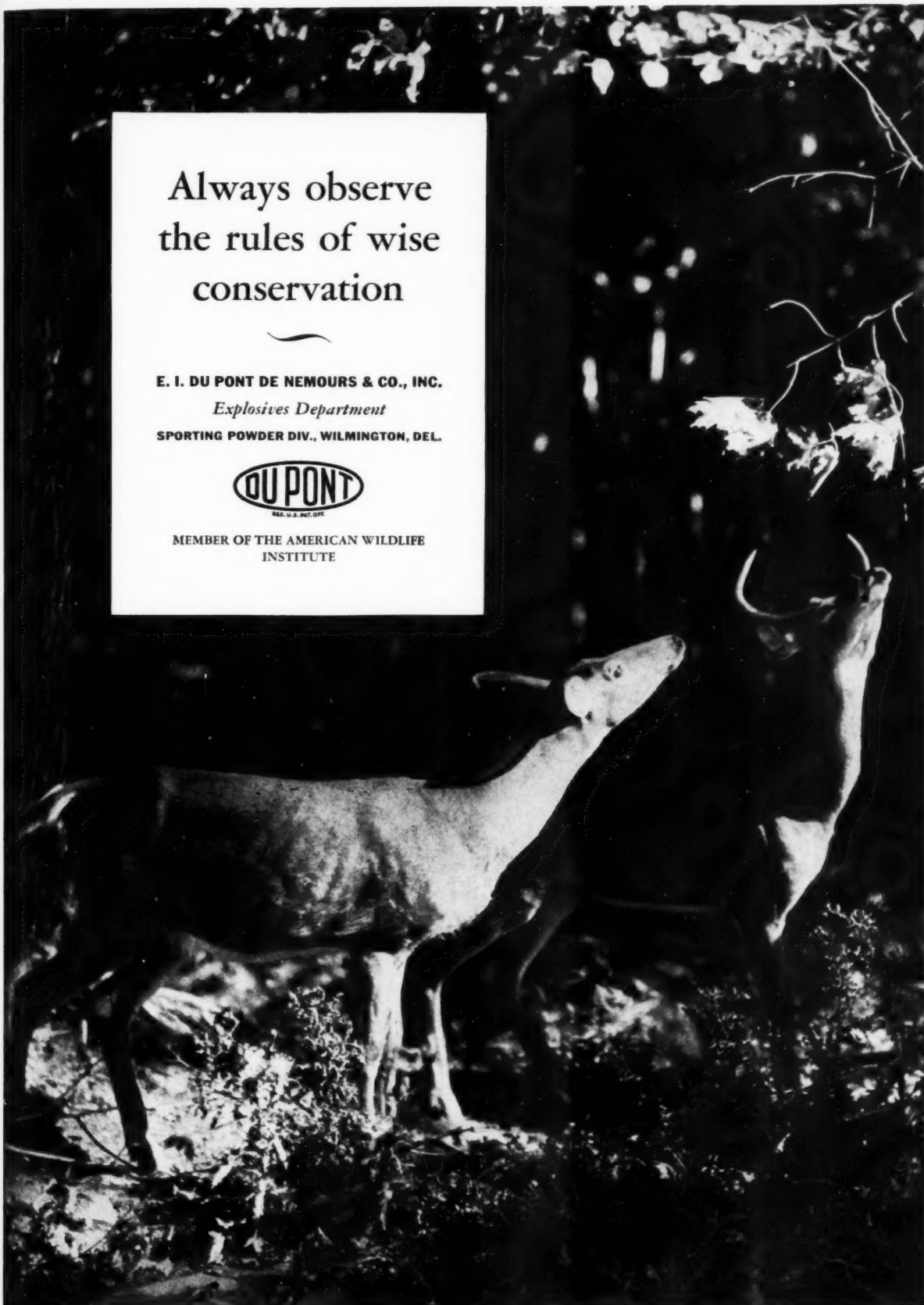
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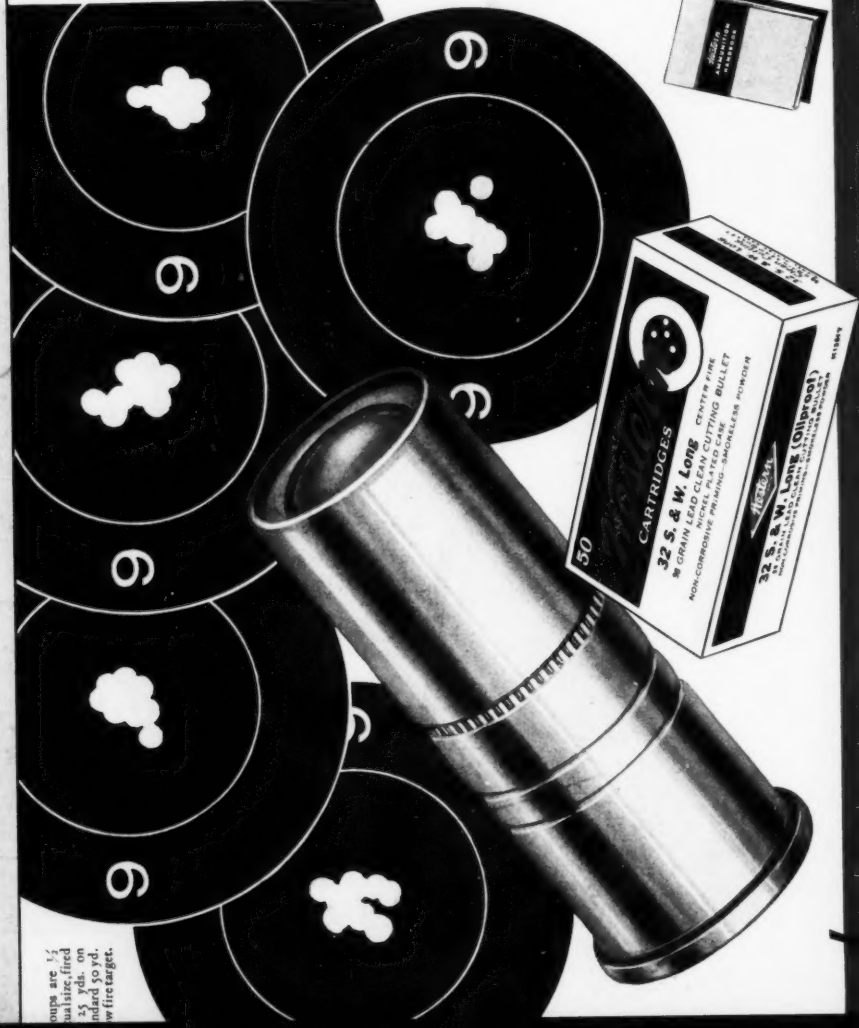


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